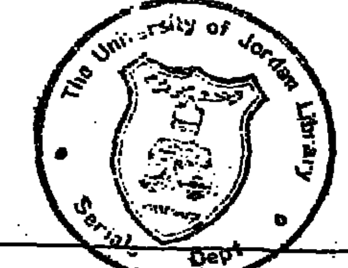


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THE TIMES

The burlesque side of the Rev Ian Paisley, page 14

Worsening economic crises put Government under pressure

The Government's troubles multiplied yesterday. with public sector unions breaking through the pay guidelines or announcing strikes. and ICI suffering a collapse of profits. And, with the latest forecast indicating that any alleviation is at least two years away, MPs of both the main parties turned on the Chancellor [page 2]. The water industry provided what seemed an important breach of the pay policy when most of the employees accepted a rise that will add 12.3 per cent to the wage bill. Leaders of the nine Civil Service unions, insisting that the Government's 7 per cent pay offer must be improved, ordered a one-day national strike, to be followed by other disruptions. In the private sector, Britain's largest company, ICI, said that economic conditions had forced it to cut its dividend for the first time since 1938. Also yesterday, the National Institute for Economic and Social Research issued figures indicating that the Government's spending and money supply objectives are now unattainable and that recovery is still two years away [page 23]. Tory and Labour MPs put Sir Geoffrey Howe under heavy pressure in the Commons to offer Britain's hard-pressed industries some sort of relief.

CI profit slumps in ts worst trading 'ear since the 1930s

Ronald Pullen
l John Huxley

'he private sector has de-ered its clearest warning t the Government's econo-: strategy is crippling British ustry. Imperial Chemical ustries, the country's largest ıpany and one of its most cessful, announced yesterday t it had been forced to cut dividend for the first time :e the Second World War ause of the harsh trading ironment, the strength of ling and high interest rates.

CI's annual figures for 1980, losed that the company made a loss in the second : of the year. Last October group shook the stock-ket with the news that it le its first quarterly trad-loss which continued in the l three months of the year.

or the year as a whole pre-profits slumped from lm to £284m, and after tak-into acount the effect of ation on the business, cur-cost pre-tax profits drop-from £366m to only £73m.

le group's 84,000 employees ne (UK) are having to forgo r profit-sharing bonus for first time in 25 years. This a discretionary payment. ed to ICI's profits and in was worth £40m.

r Maurice Hodgson, the rman, said yesterday that the group had done all it could to restore profitability but "if the present combination of adverse factors continues indefinitely we would need to reshape the business". He said there would be further job losses this year, roughly similar to the 6,000 lost last year, but would not be drawn on precisely which divisions would be the most badly affected.

The 26 per cent reduction in the dividend to 17p a share net was the first cut since 1938 and the severest since the 1930-31 depression.

The news, which also affects the thousands of employees who take their bonuses in the form of shares, was taken badly on the stock market which after weeks of indecision had finally convinced itself that the implications of such a move were unthinkable.

Between 3 million and 4 million shares are thought to have gone through the market and the value dropped 24p to 268p, their lowest point for five years, wiping nearly £150m off the group's stock market value.

Concern that more companies could be encouraged to cut dividends knocked 10 points off the FT index at one stage which closed 4.2 down on the day at 497.8.

ICI has also had to provide for closure and redundancy

Continued on page 23, col 2

Civil Service unions start action with one-day strike on March 9

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Union leaders in the Civil Service gave the Government formal notice yesterday that a one-day national strike would be held next month, followed by a campaign of "guerrilla" industrial action. The effects could include dislocation of Budget arrangements, disruption of security operations and the halting of tax computers.

The leaders of the nine unions, representing 530,000 white-collar staff, were buoyant after a ballot result from the First Division Association of 8,000 moderate top civil servants, which showed a narrow majority in favour of action.

With all unions now in agreement on action if the Government does not improve its 7 per cent offer and give a firm commitment on an orderly pay bargaining system for next year, some union leaders were predicting a long battle.

The unions have told the TUC of their decision and have received promises of support from the half dozen biggest affiliated unions, which will mainly take the form of instructions to their members not to cross picket lines.

The Civil Service unions have committed funds of more than £3m to finance the campaign, which is expected to cost about £500,000 a week. Staff called out on strike or suspended by the Government will receive 85 per cent of their gross pay.

After receiving the unions' letter, Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council and minister responsible for the Civil Service, said: "The question every civil servant must ask himself is whether industrial action is a fair and reasonable response to the offer."

He asked staff "to think hard and think again" before taking action. Pay had gone up by nearly 50 per cent in the past two years and the unions were being asked to exercise restraint with the rest of the public sector.

Lord Soames said: "It is often a question of jobs with moderate pay increases or no jobs at all. I do not see how the Government, in these circumstances, can be expected to treat the Civil Service as a special case."

The final decision to authorize the one-day strike on March 9 was taken by a meeting of the Council of Civil Service Unions, a body that represents the nine unions.

Union leaders were adamant that they had sufficient funds to win a prolonged battle if the Government refused to improve the pay offer, determined by a 6 per cent cash limit.

There was a belief in union circles last night that, after the Government's climb down in the face of threats of national strikes by the miners and water workers, ministers might be prepared to have a confrontation with civil servants, who would receive little public sympathy.

Mr Gerry Gillman, leader of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, predicted that the Government would retaliate by suspending workers who took action. "This lot are going to play it rough, tough and dirty", he said.

The planned one-day strike could cause some disruption to government preparations for the Budget on the following day, but the effect is more likely to be felt in the weeks after the Chancellor's statement, when the Budget proposals, particularly tax changes, would be due for implementation.

Unions are planning to strike at government revenue collection operations and hope to cause as little effect as possible on the public. They could not, however, rule out the possibility of action taking place in social security and unemployment benefit offices. The Prison Officers' Association can also be expected to take part in disruptive action.

Other intended targets are the PAYE tax computers at Shipley, West Yorkshire, and Cumbernauld, in Scotland, and the VAT computer centre at Southend. Government communication centres could be affected and the unions said that the Foreign Office and the diplomatic service were regarded as legitimate targets.

Spy unit threatened, page 2

Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan at the White House yesterday.

Mr Reagan praises British role

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 25

Citing Mrs Margaret Thatcher's warning that the 1980s would be "a decade fraught with danger", President Reagan pledged today that Britain and the United States would "stand side by side" in defending freedom.

"So long as our adversaries continue to arm themselves at a pace far beyond the needs of defence, so the free world must do whatever is necessary to safeguard its own security," the President said. "A stronger, more vigorous Nato must be the background of that security and of our efforts for equitable arms control."

With these rousing words, Mr Reagan welcomed the British leader to three days of meetings in Washington and New York at a lavish, colourful ceremony of the kind not seen in the American capital for the past four years.

Former President Carter disapproved of many of the trappings of the traditional ceremonies for greeting heads of governments and states, but Mr Reagan has restored, for example, the 20 or so black-coated heralds to their prominent position on the White House balcony.

Mrs Thatcher stood rigidly to attention as a 19-gun salute rang out and the President read his prepared remarks to his ideological soul-mate.

Mrs Thatcher, who is accompanied by her husband and by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will have a series of talks here with leaders of the Administration before travelling to New York to meet Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, on Saturday.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr Reagan said that, in addition to their full support for Nato, Britain and the United States were both concerned "with the totality of East-West relations". In this context, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan had been "brutal", and Mrs Thatcher had rightly taken the lead in rallying world opinion against it.

Poland was another test of East-West relations, and the Polish people must be allowed to work out solutions to their own problems. "Outside intervention there would affect profoundly in the long term the entire array of East-West relations", he said.

He thanked Mrs Thatcher for her help in securing the recent release of the 52 American hostages in Iran. Not only had Britain supported the previous Administration in its condemnation and sanctions against Iran, but the two countries would continue to work together "to confront the scourge of international terrorism".

Turning to their shared economic views, Mr Reagan said they both agreed there could be no true security unless their countries possessed economic stability.

Both the United States and Britain had suffered substantial economic difficulties, he said, and although different answers might be required, both he and Mrs Thatcher shared the basic commitment that the solution lay "within the people, not the state".

Mrs Thatcher said these were not easy times in which to assume the cares and responsibilities of national and international leadership. "The problems are many, the dangers are real, and the decisions are difficult", she added with heartfelt conviction.

"For generations our two countries have cherished the same ideals. We have defended the same causes, valued the same friendships, and together we face the same dangers." Once again, America and Britain's sense of common purpose and resolution was being tested. "It will not be found wanting," she promised.

Jnions hail water deal, but strikes intensify in the North

Dur Labour Staff

nion leaders were closely nining yesterday what eared to be a breach of the ernment's public sector pay ey in the water industry, as r and sewerage workers in s of northern England de- union instructions to call heir unofficial action.

ater workers in some areas nsified their action, with ıps coming out on strike in est at the pay deal agreed veen union leaders and the loyers. The deal adds 12.3 cent to the industry's pay but is worth about 13 per in total.

le deal was being regarded as a significant reversal for the National Water Council, which had insisted that its previous 10 per cent offer was final. Other unions took heart from what appeared to be the Government's reluctance to stand firm against groups of workers with industrial muscle.

The four water industry unions, representing 32,000 manual workers, hailed the deal, which they expect to be accepted by their members, as roughly equivalent to the 13 per cent 10-month settlement reached by the miners.

Three telephone conversations between Sir Robert Marshall, chairman of the water council, and Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, persuaded the employers to increase the offer and avoid a damaging national strike.

Sir Robert telephoned Mr King late on Tuesday evening to tell him that the employers were split. Mr King called Sir Robert early next morning, shortly before the unions were due to start their joint meeting.

It appears there was a second call from Mr King to Sir Robert while the union meeting was in progress and moving towards a strike decision. The minister urged the employers to reach a settlement.

The unions were within minutes of a formal vote on calling a national strike when Mr Edmund Newall, chief union negotiator, spoke on the telephone to Mr James Dickens, the employers' industrial relations chief, and was offered further talks which eventually led to the deal.

Under the £20.3m deal average earnings in the industry will rise from £108.49 to £122.30 a week, an increase of slightly more than 12.7 per cent for full-time workers.

About 500 water and sewerage workers in the North were taking unofficial strike action last night. The most serious effects were felt in the North-east, where about 220 workers said they would stay on strike unless they received substantial increases.

In Lancashire about 200 workers stayed on strike and were joined by 50 workers in the Preston and Bolton areas. Mr Stephen Braithwaite, a district officer for the General and Municipal Workers' Union, said: "The men are not happy with the pay offer and there is a general dissatisfaction at the way negotiations have been handled".

Speedy decisions pledge, page 2
Effect on rates, page 4
Leading article, page 15

Guyana ban threatens England tour

From John Woodcock
Georgetown, Feb 26

Clouds of uncertainty hang over the England tour of the West Indies, because of the stand being taken by the Guyanese Government over Robin Jackman's cricketing connexions with South Africa.

The Guyanese are saying that Jackman must not play in their country; the England management, who have been in touch with Lords and with the Foreign and Commonwealth office through the British High Commission, are insisting upon a free choice when they sit down to pick their side for the second Test match, scheduled to start here on Saturday.

Jackman has been a regular visitor to Southern Africa, having played cricket for Western Province in the early 1970s and for Zimbabwe last year. He is not alone in that: Bairstow captained Griqualand West in the winter of 1977-78; Boycott, Gower, Gooch and Downton have all played in South Africa.

It is this Gleneagles "accord", as they call it here, which the Guyanese Government are citing. They have done so before when prohibiting sportsmen with South African contacts from playing in Guyana. Some years ago one of the Young England sides had to withdraw from playing here because some of them had toured South Africa.

The view of the British Foreign Office that the Gleneagles Agreement does not apply in the present impasse was communicated this morning to the British High Commissioner and in turn to Mr Alan Smith, manager of the England team.

Should the Guyanese government stand firm on Jackman, Saturday's Test match is unlikely to take place and a decision will have to be made whether to abandon the tour or to go to Barbados. Barbados and Guyana are federated for cricketing purposes, but are separate countries, politically independent of each other.

Jamaica, 1,000 miles by sea from here, is another independent country which in the past (that is under Mr Manley's government, not Mr Seaga's) has taken a strong line on sportsmen with South African links. Jamaica, which should stage the fifth Test match in April, are known to be monitoring the situation.

In 1968-69 England cancelled a tour of South Africa because of the ban imposed by Mr Vorster's Government on Basil d'Oliveira. Now, as then, they are unwilling to be dictated to as to whom they may play.

I have reason to believe that the Guyanese government have become increasingly keen in the last 24 hours not to forfeit the Test match

Leading article, page 15

Britons' departure from Iran delayed again

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 26

Three Britons released from Iranian prisons last week, failed for the second day to fly out of Iran. But this time there was a simple, if rather astonishing explanation. They missed the aircraft.

The three Anglicans, Dr John and Dr Audrey Coleman and Miss Jean Waddell, were supposed to have boarded an aircraft for Dubai after failing to leave on a Paris flight yesterday. Instead they spent a second night as "guests of the Foreign Ministry." The three had previously spent six months in prison as suspected spies.

There is still no explanation of yesterday's delay and even today's seemed somewhat difficult to accept. Two Swedish diplomats who went to the airport this morning, apparently confident that the three would be able to leave, said they had been misled by Iranian officials into thinking the aircraft would take off an hour later than the scheduled time.

Opposition MPs defiant, page 7

Observer' takeover equires inister's consent

Government and Lonrho are in agreement the company's acquisition of control of Observer requires the consent of the etary of State for Trade. Lord Duncan dys, Lonrho's chairman, discussed the matter he Department after Labour MPs called for ebate. Lonrho firmly denied that the newser would be controlled from Glasgow or e from London. Journalists voted to approve takeover provided firm guarantees were n on editorial independence Page 2

B goes on the air

Citizen5s band readio service has been sanced by the Government. The Home Secretary ed that the new personal two-way service will t in the autumn, but users will have to have ceince. The frequency selected, 27 MHz FM, uld give CB enthusiasts what they want, but MHz AM equipment now being used would ain illegal Page 2

ostmen's plea answered

vers that will allow postal deliveries at den gate letter boxes will bring comfort to tmen threatened by fierce dogs. Mr Charles rris, Labour MP for Manchester, Openshaw, l at the committee stage of the telecommunions Bill that every year 4,250 postmen were nt by dogs while delivering mail. He urged ll use of the new service Page 2

'rude' mail tampering

utory controls on the interception of letters e urged in a clause to the telecommunicas Bill moved by Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour for Ipswich. The practice was so crude he l that Inspector Clouseau-type blunders were le. There was evidence that at least 400 ers a year connected with political groups e tampered with in London Page 4

The Pope says Mass for 48,000 in Nagasaki

The Pope has left Japan for Rome ending a four-day visit hailed by the Japanese press as a triumph. Earlier, he celebrated an open-air Mass in driving snow and gusty winds in Nagasaki, a Roman Catholic stronghold. It was attended by 48,000 faithful, more than 600 of whom fainted in the bitter cold and were taken to hospitals Page 8

Bhutto widow arrested

Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, has been arrested in Lahore along with other leading opposition politicians. They had been at a meeting of the newly-formed Movement for the Restoration of Democracy which was organizing a campaign to end martial law in Pakistan Page 8

BBC fights jamming

The BBC is going for a deeper penetration of the Soviet Union with its external services broadcasts in an attempt to counter the jamming of the Russian language transmissions. It is also to launch a new service, in Pushtu, a language spoken by about 18 million people in Afghanistan Page 7

Spain still apprehensive

Señor Calvo Sotelo was sworn in as Spain's Prime Minister as investigators sought to lay responsibility for Monday's abortive coup. Some apprehension is still noticeable and mass demonstrations have been called in support of democracy. Señor Adolfo Suárez, the outgoing Prime Minister, has been made a duke Page 6

Jail crisis: Emergency measures brought in to deal with prison officers' dispute will be allowed to lapse 2

Colombia: A Special Report on one of Latin America's few democracies 17-21

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 12, 13, 30; Appointments, 12; Car buyers' guide, 13

Midnight mass shootings have become almost routine in El Salvador

From Michael Leapman
San Salvador, Feb 26

Shortly after midnight last night seven people, including two teachers, a court official and a bank manager, were dragged by gunmen from their houses at Tonacatepeque, a township five miles north of here. Two hours later their neighbours heard shots and at daybreak the seven bodies were found in the road outside.

This sort of thing is almost routine in El Salvador, the small, crowded and historically vicious republic where President Reagan's Administration has chosen to draw the line against creeping communism in Central America. Scarcely a day passes without at least one such incident.

The gunmen are never caught but the style of the killings bears the hallmark of ORDEN, a ruthless right-wing terror group officially banned but still highly active. The victims were intellectuals, presumably suspected of links with the leftist guerrillas trying to overthrow the centre-right junta.

Last year more than 13,000 people died as victims of terrorism from the right and left. The rate is being sustained this year.

In some parts of the country, especially those remote from the capital where it is hard to exercise control, people are so terrified by the marauding executioners that they have abandoned their homes and fled to refugee camps. Some camps hold more than 1,000 people, mostly children, and lack adequate food and clothing.

In these areas, it is hard to distinguish the right-wing guerrillas from the regular Army and National Guard personnel. They ride around in open lorries, some in uniform and some in civilian clothes, instilling fear into the populace. In the mornings, bodies are found by the roadside, some with their heads severed.

Such details were not included in the impressive documentation accompanying the "White Paper" issued this week by the State Department to support its claim that Cuba, East Germany, Nicaragua and the Soviet Union are giving arms and support to the leftist guerrillas. The new order in Washington sees these matters in rigidly competitive terms.

"We have clear evidence", Mr James Brady, President Reagan's Press Secretary, said "of catching the communists' hands in the cookie jar".

El Salvador is an agricultural country, dotted with extinct volcanoes whose five million people are emerging painfully from years of autocratic military rule. The present Junta was formed in 1979 after General Romero was ousted from the Presidency. Under President Carter, American policy was to encourage liberal reforms, notably the turning over of large agricultural estates to the peasants.

The reforms angered the right, the wealthy supporters of the old dictatorship. Much right-wing violence has been devoted to destroying the co-operative farms which had been established on the old estates.

At the same time the changes were not radical enough to appease the left, whose guerrilla operations intensified last year, culminating in what was to have been the final offensive last month. It failed to bring down the Government, mainly because the peasants did not rally to the guerrillas as they had expected. Most people simply want the violence from both sides to stop; a forlorn hope.

Attacks from the left are directed against structures more than against people. Power cuts are frequent as pylons and substations are blown up. Bridges have been destroyed in the north-east. Here in the capital, there have been bomb attacks on offices, mainly American-owned.

American tactics under President Reagan were dramatized by the dismissal of Mr Robert White, the United States Ambassador, who was thought to be pressing the junta too hard towards reform. The new emphasis is on giving them effective military support rather than trying to make them better people.

Continued on page 7, col 4

HOME NEWS

Government approval of CB radio is hailed as victory

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A citizen's band radio service has been sanctioned by the Government. Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, announced yesterday. He hopes the personal two-way service will be introduced in the autumn.

But the announcement, made in a parliamentary written reply to Mr Patrick Wall, Conservative MP for Haltemprice, has done little to calm the dispute about interference from equipment used by Citizen's band enthusiasts.

Mr Whitelaw said that the 27 MHz AM (amplitude modulated) equipment now used in Britain would remain illegal. He has decided to permit a service on 27 MHz FM (frequency modulated). Equipment will be required to meet a technical specification, and users will have to buy a licence. A further frequency will be made available at about 930 MHz.

Last night Citizen's band enthusiasts were saying the Government had retreated.

Mr David Evans, general manager of the Radio Society of Great Britain, the national organization for licensed radio amateurs, said: "I think they have just given in." The legal difficulty of the use of 27 MHz had not been tackled three or four years ago as it should have been; now the very many illegal operators had created the pressure to force action.

It was estimated that 300,000 users were operating illegally, he added. Mr Evans said FM would help to reduce interference, but not to eliminate it. He and Mr Keith Townsend, secretary of the Citizen's Band Association, spoke of the difficulties of regulation.

Mr M. J. Spencer, managing director of Citizens Bank UK, which, he said, imported and distributed legal equipment for citizen's band use, thought the Government had confused the issue. People who had already paid for their sets would not throw them away.

Mr Evans, however, was pleased that the Government was also making a frequency band available around 930 MHz. Mr Whitelaw said that equipment using it should provide a good service with minimum risk of interference.

Speaking of the new service, Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, said: "The interference which illegal CB equipment is causing to television reception and emergency services is giving rise for concern, and now that the Government has gone so far towards meeting the wishes of supporters of CB, I hope that we can rely on those with illegal equipment to act responsibly and stop using it".

Mr Whitelaw said in a parliamentary written reply on December 18 that he favoured the introduction of citizen's band radio on a frequency of about 930 MHz. But because of public demand for an alternative he agreed to consider the possibility of using a lower frequency.

The frequent selected, 27 MHz FM, should give CB enthusiasts what they want at about the same cost as illicit equipment, but with far less interference to other users, the Home Office said.

Nearly 5,000 complaints in the past five months of interference to radio, television, and high fidelity equipment were directly traced to the use of illegal 27 MHz AM sets.

Mr Townsend said that his association had asked for evidence to support the Home Office figures of interference complaints, but none had been forthcoming.

Acquisition of control of 'The Observer' may be subject to inquiry by monopolies commission

Lonrho agrees takeover must have government consent

By Dan van der Vat

The Government and Lonrho were in agreement yesterday that the company's acquisition of control of *The Observer* required the consent of Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, under the terms of the Fair Trading Act, 1973.

Spokesmen for Lonhro said that the unexpected decision by Atlantic Richfield Corporation (Arco) to exchange the newspaper for a 40 per cent stake in George Outram, Lonhro's wholly owned Glasgow publishing subsidiary, was subject to government approval.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, taking Prime Minister's questions in Parliament in the absence of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, said that government consent was required and that no application for consent had then been received. However, Lord Duncan-Sandys, chairman of Lonrho, later visited the Department of Trade to discuss the matter.

The Act is clear on the subject. Section 58 reads, in part: "A transfer of a newspaper . . . to a . . . proprietor whose newspapers have an average circulation per day of publication amounting, together with that of the newspaper concerned in the transfer, to 500,000 or more copies shall be unlawful and void, unless the transfer is made with written consent given . . . by the Secretary of State (for Trade)." *The Observer* sells almost a million copies.

The Secretary of State is required to call on the newspaper panel of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to conduct an investigation before he gives his consent. There are two exceptions: Where the newspaper concerned is not economic and when the transfer is one of urgency or if the newspaper is not intended to continue as a separate paper.

The second exception applied to *The New Standard's* absorption of the *Evening News* in London last year. The first was held by Mr Biffen to apply when Mr Rupert Murdoch took over Times Newspapers.

Labour plea for debate on the press

By Our Political Editor

The Government was informed of the sale of *The Observer* only after the deal had been concluded, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, disclosed yesterday in the Commons.

Answering for the Prime Minister, who is in Washington, Mr Whitelaw made clear that the transfer of ownership to Lonrho was conditional on the Government's consent.

There were immediate Labour protests. Later Labour backbenchers were strongly pressing their leadership for a full Commons debate on the freedom and diversity of the press. At a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party backbenchers said the Government's refusal to refer Mr Rupert Murdoch's purchase of Times Newspapers to the monopolies commission had "opened the floodgates".

At question time Mr Whitelaw intimated that the first official cognizance the Government had was yesterday morning.

Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House, agreed that it was an important matter, but suggested that it was suitable for an MP to raise in private member's time.

Journalists ask for guarantees

By Our Labour Staff

Journalists on *The Observer* voted to approve the Lonrho takeover last night provided that firm guarantees were given on editorial independence.

The decision was made after a meeting between Mr Roland Rowland and members of the office chapel of the National Union of Journalists, which lasted more than an hour. Mr Rowland is understood to have given assurances that he was not seeking redundancies.

He is said to have been involved in exchanges with two senior journalists about Lonrho's relations with the Tanzanian Government, and about the newspaper's reporting of the Lonhro bid for House of Fraser.

The journalists, at a union meeting attended by between 60 and 70 members, nevertheless welcomed, by what was said to be a comfortable majority, the proposed takeover, provided that editorial guarantees were given.

Earlier Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, said that he had been dismayed that union leaders had not been warned in advance of the deal.

THE OBSERVER
Crisis Budget will slash interest rate
TUC warns H-block rebels
UNCLE SAM'S BRITISH BASES

Idea of control from Glasgow discounted

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

The startling suggestion that *The Observer* would in future be controlled from Glasgow by its new owners, George Outram and Company, was firmly denied yesterday. Lonrho, the parent company of Outram, said there was no intention of moving *The Observer*'s printing capability from its premises in London and editorial control would remain with *The Observer*.

The company said in a statement that the highly respected overseas editorial team would continue to provide important quality coverage on Africa, the Middle East and other areas.

"It is Lonrho's intention that through the greater utilization of *The Observer*'s facilities, for instance the possibility of a new London evening paper, a substantial additional contribution to the revenue of *The Observer* will be made, thereby bringing the paper into a profit position."

There had been some alarm in Glasgow that the acquisition would upset plans by Outram to produce a new Sunday newspaper which will be called *The Sunday Standard*.

Mr Charles Wilson, editor-designate, said emphatically that publication would go ahead on April 26. He admitted it would compete directly in Scotland with *The Observer* but the services provided would be different and add a Scottish dimension to the quality of analysis and writing that readers expected from *The Observer*.

He expected that initially *The Sunday Standard* would be bought with other quality newspapers. If it drew readers from other Sunday newspapers he thought it would be from the bottom end of the market, which now won hem by default because readers might not be interested in the material but wanted to know, for example, whether Galashiels had beaten Hawick.

These are exciting times in Scottish journalism. *The Sunday Standard* will partly compete with the 250,000 readership comanmded by *The Observer* and *The Sunday Times* in Scotland. In addition *The Scotsman* in Edinburgh is thought to be advancing plans to publish a Sunday newspaper

The Rowland faithful, page 14
Leading article, page 15
Fraser decision, page 23

Once-bitten, twice shy postmen get relief

By Patricia Tisdall

Postmen who are threatened by fierce dogs can take comfort from new powers that will permit postal deliveries to be made to garden gate letter boxes, Mr Charles Morris, Labour MP for Manchester, Openshaw, said yesterday.

He was speaking in favour of a clause of the British Telecommunications Bill that will enable mail to be delivered to boxes at ends of farm lanes or at a central point in a block of flats, but only if the recipient agrees.

On average, 4,250 postmen were bitten by dogs while delivering mail in each of the past three years, Mr Morris told the committee examining the Bill.

One in five bites were serious enough to cause the postman to stay off work for three days or more, yet he might have to return to the same address for more of the same medicine.

Under the Post Office's "ludicrous" procedures for dealing with such incidents, the Head Postmaster had to write to the owner of the dog warning him that his dog was dangerous. "And who has to deliver this letter but the postman, possibly the same one, who had been bitten in the first place?"

Mr Morris urged dog owners and the Post Office to take advantage of the new garden gate delivery service allowed under the Bill. However, any such relief for once-bitten, twice-shy postmen depended on cooperation from householders.

The Post Office would have preferred to make such services compulsory, to allow it more scope to cut costs rather than to protect postmen, Mr Michael Marshall, Under-Secretary of State for Industry, told the committee. But the Government had decided that it should be by agreement.

Romantic enterprise commended

By Staff Reporters

The Prince of Wales, in presenting the Enterprise Scotland awards in Glasgow yesterday, commended his own recent piece of enterprise.

He said he was happy to say that the announcement of his engagement had made shares go up. "Value for money" he remarked.

He had been touched to see how happy the news had made other people in the midst of what was otherwise not an encouraging outlook.

"Such was the anxiety that I had letters in the last two weeks or so from various organizations saying, 'Please hurry up and do something about it'. They wanted to take advantage of it commercially".

—MF—

Mrs Frances Shand Kydd, the mother of Lady Diana Spencer, returned to London from Australia yesterday. She said that Lady Diana had telephoned her a few hours after she had accepted the Prince's proposal.

To replace Allibar, the Prince's horse that died suddenly last week, he has bought Good Prospect, a 22-times winner,

Approval for Trident force sought

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Parliamentary authority for Trident nuclear missile submarines to replace the present Polaris force as a viable independent British strategic deterrent is to be sought by the Government at the conclusion of a Commons debate next Tuesday.

A small group of Cabinet ministers decided last July to build British submarines to carry the lang-range Trident missile being qurchased from the United States at an initially estimated cost of about £5,000m.

However, the decision has never been put to Parliament. It was debated briefly only on the Liberals' initiative last August.

Ministers say certain commitments in the procurement programme will be seen as authorized by next Tuesday's vote.

The precise terms of the govevrnment motion are not known. If it specifies Trident the Opposition will vote against.

However, the Shadow Cabinet has not discussed its position on the continuation of the Polaris force since Mr Michael Foot became leader of the Opposition.

Prison crisis measures allowed to lapse

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

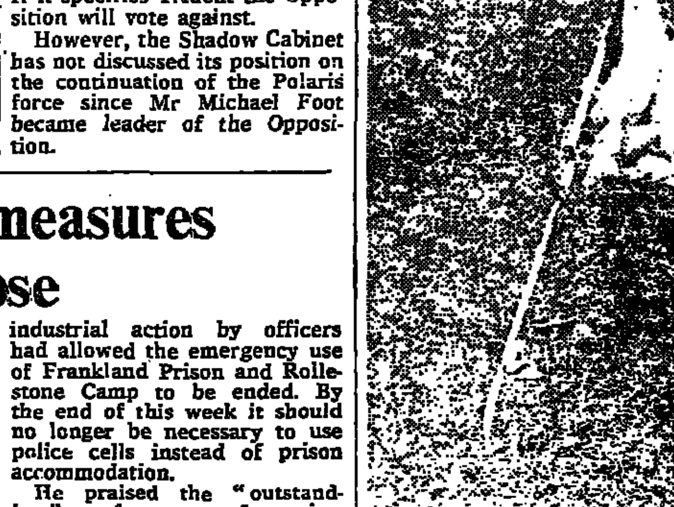
Emergency measures announced by the Government in October to deal with the crisis created by prison officers' industrial action are being allowed to lapse tomorrow.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said in a parliamentary written reply yesterday that he did not propose to seek continuation of the Imprisonment (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1980.

He told Mr Edward Gardner, Conservative MP for South Fylde, that the suspension of industrial action by officers had allowed the emergency use of Frankland Prison and Rollestone Camp to be ended. By the end of this week it should no longer be necessary to use police cells instead of prison accommodation.

He praised the "outstanding" performance of servicemen and police in helping with the care and custody of prisoners and thanked the courts for their understanding.

Negotiations with the Prison Officers' Association on a new duty system were proceeding, Mr Whitelaw said.



Mrs Yvenne Jackman, whose husband, Robin Jackman, has been banned from playing cricket in Guyana because of his South African contacts.

Eire worry on defence pact hint

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Senior Irish politicians are increasingly worried about the future of the country's policy of neutrality in international affairs after suggestions that Britain and Ireland might consider establishing a defence pact.

Controversy has been heightened by some apparently unguarded remarks by Mr. Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, on Irish Radio.

He said of the possibility of a defence agreement: "This is something, no doubt, that can be talked about. Indeed, we have a common interest in resisting totalitarianism, any potential enemies, and as I say, here we are off the coast of Europe.

"We are threatened; Europe is threatened. We have as close an interest as any other two countries in Europe, and therefore of course this can be talked about."

He thought that the subjects to discussed in the join Anglo-Irish studies which were agreed at the Dublin summit between the British and Irish prime ministers last December were still being looked at.

"Nothing is going to be decided until the two heads of government meet again some time in the summer."

Mr Frank Cluskey, leader of the Labour Party, clashed with the Speaker in the Dail yesterday after being ruled out of order when he tried to question Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, about Mr Atkins's remarks.

Dr Garret FitzGerald, leader of Fine Gael, declared that he would put down a special notice question on the issue.

He demanded a statement from Mr Haughey and accused him of misleading the House a fortnight ago when he denied that the policy of neutrality was to be abandoned in favour of a military alliance with Britain.

Ulster "loyalism", page 14

Union threat to signals spy unit

By Peter Hennessy

Britain's Composite Signals Organization, which provides essential raw material drawn from the communications of potentially hostile foreign powers for defence intelligence and the Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, could be seriously affected by industrial action contemplated by the Council of Civil Service Unions in furtherance of its pay claim.

Under the United States—United Kingdom Intelligence Agreement, 1946, Whitehall and Washington have divided up the world between them for the purposes of gathering signals intelligence.

During industrial action taken by data processing staff in 1979 at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham, the central establishment of the Composite Signals Organization, the United States National Security Agency (NSA) was able to provide cover for the British intelligence community for several weeks.

Should selective strike action take place as expected next month, there is a strong possibility that a small but important number of signals intelligence activities will be disrupted where adequate alternative cover by the NSA is not feasible.

New plans drawn up by the Civil Service unions, whose members work for the GCHQ and the Composite Signals Organization, on the basis of experience gained between December, 1979, and March, 1980, when station radio officers took sporadic and largely successful industrial action, could thwart the counter-measures envisaged by the Government's contingency planners.

Among the monitoring stations servicing GCHQ whose yield is deemed important by the Whitehall intelligence community, and whose work the NSA cannot properly duplicate, are listening posts in Hongkong and on Ascension Island, in the South Atlantic.

Much of the work of the station on Irton Moor, above Scarborough, can be taken over by the NSA, but parts of it cannot. They include aspects important to Nato's biannual war simulation exercise, code-named, Wintex 81, which is due to start on March 8, a day before the one-day strike planned by the Civil Service unions.

Another area of particularly acute concern to Whitehall contingency planners sitting on a secret Cabinet committee of senior officials known as E (OCS), from its title, Economy (Official Civil Service), which meets under the chairmanship of Mr Angus Fraser, a Civil Service Department deputy secretary, is computers used for tax gathering by the Customs and Excise and the Inland Revenue.

The customs yield an average of £462m a week to the Exchequer and the Inland Revenue £511m. Contingency plans prepared by E(OCS) could prevent all of that being lost through selective strikes against computer installations, but the committee estimated that government worries about the pubic sector borrowing requirement could be exacerbated by the loss of £1,000m in six weeks.

If E(OCS) plans are implemented, employers may be asked by the Government to pay their Paye tax returns and national insurance contributions by alternative means once a month.

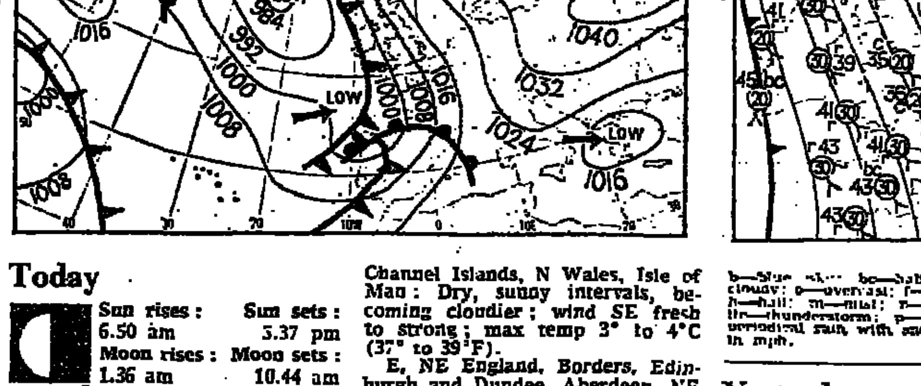
The clearing banks and the Post Office could be asked to act as temporary reception centres for such payments, which would be calculated on a rough-and-ready basis from receipts received in the recent past, with the Government promising to make adjustments once the strike was over.

Non-computer staff remaining at work in customs and revenue local offices could be asked by their departments to accept such payments over the counter, even though that is not normally part of their duties. If they refuse, the Civil Service unions believe the Government will implement what is known in E(OCS) circles as the "slaughter of the innocents" option.

That involves suspending without pay non-striking staff who refuse instructions to cover for their colleagues taking industrial action.

Since the time of the Callaghan Administration successive law officers have given conflicting advice about the legality of such tactics, but the present Government seems keen to apply it on the ground that although an individual civil servant does not have a contract of employent, his or her conditions of service amount to the same thing.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; rs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.50 am. Sun sets: 5.37 pm
Moon rises: 1.36 am. Moon sets: 10.44 am
Last quarter: 1.14 am

Lighting up: 6.07 pm to 6.18 am. High water: London Bridge, 6.50 am, 5.9m; 7.19 pm, 5.9m. Avonmouth, 11.46 am, 9.9m. Dover, 3.56 am, 5.4m; 4.31 pm, 5.1m. Hull, 11.23 am, 5.9m; 11.54 pm, 5.8m. Liverpool, 4.14 am, 7.3m; 4.37 pm, 7.2m.

1 ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808 ft.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: All areas lie in a strong SE airstream.

London, SE, NW, central N England, East Anglia, E. Midlands, Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highland, Moray Firth, Argyll: Dry, sunny intervals; wind SE fresh to strong; max temp 3° to 4°C (37° to 39°F).

Central S England, W Midlands, Channel Islands, N Wales, Isle of Man: Dry, sunny intervals, becoming cloudier; wind SE fresh to strong; max temp 3° to 4°C (37° to 39°F).

E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly dry, rather cloudy, few sunny intervals; wind SE, fresh; max temp 2° to 3°C (36° to 37°F).

SW England, S Wales, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, rain slowly spreading from W; wind SE, strong; max temp 5° to 6°C (41° to 43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Continuing cold.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SE strong; sea rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SE strong to gale; sea very rough.

The weather forecast chart on February 21 showed the wind in the opposite direction to that forecast.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 3°C, (37°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1°C, (34°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 72 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,021.9 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	10	50	Cologne	s	6	43	Moscow	s	-5	23	Nice	s	12	54
Algiers	f	15	59	Copenhgn	c	3	37	Munich	s	5	41	Oslo	r	-1	30
Amsterdm	c	1	34	Dublin	r	4	39	L Palmas	c	21	70	Paris	r	4	39
Athens	c	10	50	Edinburgh	f	3	37	Lisbon	r	11	52	Reykjavik	c	2	36
Barcelona	f	13	55	Florence	s	9	48	Locarno	c	7	45	Rome	f	12	54
Belfast	sl	3	37	Funchal	r	17	63	London	d	2	36	Ronaldwy	c	3	37
Berlin	s	4	39	Geneva	s	3	37	L'bourg	s	3	37	Stockholm	f	-2	28
Biarritz	f	13	55	Gibraltar	c	16	61	Madrid	c	10	50	Tel Aviv	f	16	61
Birm'ham	c	0	32	Guernsey	f	5	41	Majorca	c	13	55	Venice	s	8	46
Bristol	f	2	36	Helsinki	f	-3	27	Malaga	c	14	57	Vienna	s	3	37
Brussels	s	4	39	Innsbruck	s	2	36	Malta	f	12	54	Warsaw	s	2	36
Budapest	s	4	39	Istanbul	r	3	37	M'chester	s	2	36	Zurich	c	1	34
Cardiff	c	2	36	Jersey	f	5	41	Naples	c	8	46				

Overseas selling prices

Australia 52; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 36; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.60; Iran IR 1.35; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 110; Jordan LD 0.42; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon Ll 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 36; Madeira Esc 5; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.5; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din .450; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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Speedy decisions pledge on coal, steel, rail

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Government yesterday took a stage further its "pragmatic" policy of accommodation with powerful trade unions by promising to speed decisions on investment in the nationalized industries.

Union leaders of the coal-steel-rail "triple alliance" left talks with ministers convinced that there has been a significant shift in attitudes towards state-owned enterprises.

Detecting the change of heart, Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said: "There is no feeling that you are just talking to your damn selves. It seems that they are listening." The steelworkers' leader, Mr William Sirs, added: "It appears there is a change in attitude".

They were speaking after nearly two hours of talks between leaders of the NUM, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and senior Cabinet ministers on union proposals for greater public investment in their industries.

The "summit" at the Department of Employment brought together union leaders and Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Employment, Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy and Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Transport.

Mr Prior emphasized at the meeting that the Government was not prejudiced against public investment. He repeated that view at a press conference, while conceding that there were legitimate fears among Conservative backbenchers that state industry was getting a large share of available cash.

Mrs McAliskey leaves hospital

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, the former MP, who was shot several times at her home on January 16, left the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, on Tuesday, it was revealed yesterday.

She was reunited with her husband, who was also wounded in the attack, and they are believed to have slipped into the Irish Republic to stay with friends. The couple have three young children.

Tory sniping on interest rates fails to disarm Chancellor

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was left in no doubt yesterday of the deep concern throughout the Commons, of friend and foe alike, at the economic state of the nation and of the dire need to say something, if only goodbye, that might encourage the belief that better times were on the way.

Against the background of his Budget statement in 11 days' time and the disturbing news yesterday of the trading losses of ICI and the halving of its final dividend, the Chancellor came under heavy pressure from both Tory and Labour benches to reduce interest rates and produce some formula to relieve Britain's hard-pressed industries.

Presumably, somewhere in the jungle of backbenchers Sir Geoffrey must have had his supporters, but if so they were keeping their heads well below the parapet.

The Chancellor, who was being interrogated at the last question time for the Treasury before the Budget on March 10, was given a clear warning by Tory MPs that they are not going to be satisfied much longer with sightings by the Government of pots of gold at the foot of the rainbow and lights at the end of tunnels.

Yesterday's rumblings from a growing band of malcontents on the Tory benches must have indicated to Sir Geoffrey that "steady as she goes" is not going to be enough on Budget day and that he will be in hot water unless he comes up with a programme for recovery that will at least sound realistic.

On past occasions the voices of unrest have usually been balanced by those urging the government to stay the course. Treasury prophecies that the recession will start to bottom out later in the year usually brought comfort to the weak of heart.

But yesterday even Mr John Bruce-Gardyne, the hardest monetarist of them all, was not to be heard pleading with the Government to stand ifrm.

Challenged first from the Labour benches, Sir Geoffrey resorted to the usual tranquillizers about keeping interest rates under review and his desire to see them come down. But he was soon brought sharply to attention as the Conservative benches joined in.

Another Tory, Mr Robin Squire, quoted the imaginative article in last Sunday's *Observer* on the need to reduce the rate by 3 per cent in the Budget. There would be even greater pleasure, he said, if the rate was brought down instantly.

With Treasury Ministers gagged by the requirement not to reveal anything in advance of the Budget, Sir Geoffrey's replies ere somewhat cryptic. He refused, however, to undertake any significant reflation of the economy. To do so, he said, would undermine the substantial progress made in reducing inclation

Parliamentary report, page 11

هكذا من الأصل

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*Maximum prices as at 21st January, 1981. Seat belts, car tax and VAT included. Delivery and number plates at extra cost.

HOME NEWS

Authorities have blank cheque for opening political mail, MP says in urging curbs on scrutiny

By *Patricia Tisdall*

Allegations that interception and copying of mail is so commonplace that "crude and blatant mistakes" occur were made during the committee stage of the Telecommunications Bill in the House of Commons yesterday.

Moving a new clause that would introduce statutory controls on interception of letters, Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour MP for Ipswich, said that such surveillance was at least as common as telephone tapping.

There was evidence that at least 400 letters a year connected with political organizations were tampered with in *London alone*, he said.

"If the public is under any illusion that every letter that is intercepted is on proper authority of the Home Secretary, then they will believe anything." A network for intercepting letters *existed in Britain, he said.*

At every post office there was a list of cards, regularly updated, with details of every group *whose mail the Special* Branch, MI5 or other requesting agents wanted to intercept.

Those letters were specially sorted and there was a fleet of motor cycles standing by at postal headquarters in St Martin's-Le-Grand, in London, to take them to the corporation's special investigation division.

Inspector Clouseau-type blun*ders were made, Mr Weetch* said. The Freedom Bookshop, in *Stepney*, east London, found a receipt from the division among a batch of six letters that had been delivered to it in 1972; he showed the receipt to the committee.

Mr Jim Huggon, who is *responsible for the bookshop*, part of an anarchist publishing group, confirmed later that the receipt had been found.

There was no "hard evidence" that the shop's mail, mainly concerned with book orders and general inquiries, had been tampered with since then, Mr Huggon said. While there were inevitably suspicions about mail that had been opened and officially resealed because of "damage in transit", use of methods such as X-rays means that it was impossible to detect interference.

Mr Weetch described to the committee some of the instruments used secretly to *scrutinize mail without leaving* traces.

They included a device like a spinning needle inserted in *envelopes to photograph the* contents, and carbon scanners that picked up ink traces through envelopes so that a letter could be read.

The new clause, which would ban all interceptions except for detecting serious crime, terrorism and espionage, is similar to that proposed to control telephone tapping.

*Mr Weetch said that organi*zations like the Special Branch and MI5 and possibly unauthorized groups had a blank cheque for opening mail for purely political reasons.

"*If you are to the left* of the Labour Party or to the right of the Tory party, then there is a high probability that you will be investigated in some shape or form".

Tampering with letters was at least as prelevant as telephone tapping, he said.

The Home Office is opposing legal controls on interception of mail.

A statement from the Home Office read out by Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, opposing the clause, said it was unnecessary because a warrant from the Secretary of State was needed before mail could be legally intercepted under existing legislation.

In addition there was a risk of helping criminals because secrecy could not be maintained if the courts were able to inquire into individual circumstances.

Like the clause on telephone tapping, the proposed measures to curb interception of mail, will be debated again at the Bill's report stage.

Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon North, who had swung the committee's vote in favour of the earlier telephone tapping amendment, abstained yesterday, but he said the principle behind the clause was essential.

Hope of victory over phone tapping

By Frances Gibb

A Conservative backbencher said yesterday that he was quietly confident of mustering *the necessary support among* Tory MPs to defeat the Government in its resistance to statutory controls on telephone tapping.

Mr John Gorst, MP for Barnet, Hendon North, believes *he can find the 20 or so* Tory MPs needed to ensure that the Labour-sponsored clause on tapping remains in the Tele*communications Bill.*

It was Mr Gorst's backing for the clause that brought about the Government's defeat at the Bill's committee stage. The Government has declared its intention to reverse the defeat at the report stage.

But fears were expressed yesterday from within the *125,000-member* Post Office Engineering Union, which backs the clause, that the timing of Lord Diplock's report on telephone tapping, to be published next Tuesday, is an attempt to deflect support for the legislation.

Mr Roger Darlington, assistant research officer at the union and author of its report, *Tapping the Telephone*, which provides the material for the clause, said: "The Diplock report is part of a parliamentary struggle to avoid any law on telephone tapping."

The union's report, published last summer, expressed concern over the range of unofficial tapping, which is not covered by Lord Diplock's review, and also at the lack of legal safeguards and legal remedies against abuses in official tapping.

Mr Darlington said yesterday that the clause, which was supported by Mr Gorst in principle but not in all details, might be whittled down with a view to gaining more Con*servative support.*

He wants the clause amended so that tapping can be allowed for "subversive", as well as "terrorist" and "espionage", activities.

A woman was killed and seven people were injured when these buses collided at Archway, London, yesterday.

Councils' concern over effects of music ruling

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

A number of local authorities admitted yesterday that they have suspected for many years that it was against the law to charge fees for music lessons in school, but had done so to be able to continue an invaluable service.

That service is now in jeopardy in many areas after the High Court ruling on Wednesday that Hereford and Worcester had no legal right to charge a parent fees for instrumental tuition given to his two daughters as part of their normal curriculum within school hours.

Local authorities all over the country yesterday were anxiously consulting legal advisers to see whether they will also be obliged to stop charging for instrumental tuition and possibly various school activities such as swimming, craft courses, residential or field trips and examination fees; *and whether they will have to* repay fees.

Mr John Gifford, director of education for Hereford and Worcester, and Mr John Arnett, chairman of the county's education committee, confirmed that the £50,000 paid by parents for instrumental tuition since the fees were introduced last April would be repaid.

Mr Gifford said that although Mr Justice Forbes had given no ruling on whether the authority was obliged to repay the money, he understood that repayment was implicit in the authority's undertaking to the High Court to act as "reasonable people".

Some authorities, like Oxfordshire, have been charging fees *for years and the sums involved* could therefore be substantial.

Many authorities are clearly appalled by the possible wide effects of the ruling, particularly in relation to instrumental tuition, which is expensive and traditionally regarded as an "extra" in the curriculum, and therefore likely to be an early candidate for cuts.

Some authorities are examining the possibility of taking the activities for which fees are charged outside school hours in the hope that that would not then count as "education provided in any (maintained) school" in respect of which the law stipulates fees may not be charged.

In brief

Cathedral arches to be repaired

Work is to begin shortly on repairing the flying buttress arches on the medieval chapter house of Lincoln Cathedral, *which have been damaged by* heavy traffic.

Concern about cracks in the arches caused by vibration was expressed in a letter to *The Times* last summer signed by the Director of the British Museum and the former Archbishop of Canterbury, among others. The city council has since agreed to a permanent ban on vehicles over three tons on the road past the east end of the cathedral.

QC to lead defence of Peter Sutcliffe

Mr James Chadwin, QC, of Newcastle upon Tyne, will lead the defence of Peter Sutcliffe, the Bradford lorry driver who *is charged with the murder of* 13 women and the attempted murder of seven others. Junior counsel will be Mr Sydney Levine, of Bradford. Mr Harry Ognall, QC, and Mr John Hitchen will appear for the prosecution. No date has been fixed for the trial.

Widow to get £126,000

Mrs Gillian Edison, a widow, of Ellison Street, Bracebridge, Lincolnshire, was awarded *£126,000 agreed* damages in the High Court yesterday against Humberside Sea and Land Services Ltd, of Immingham Dock, *for the loss of her husband*, a crane driver, who died from burns after an explosion at work.

PC murder bid charge

Stuart Blackstock, aged 26, of no fixed address, and Leslie Cooke, aged 21, of Elm Tree Avenue, Northolt, west London, *were committed in custody* by magistrates at Uxbridge yesterday accused of attempting to murder a London policeman, Phillip Olds.

Building control plans

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announcing publication of the Government's proposals for building control yesterday, said they were designed to produce clearer and *more usable regulations.*

Man found hanged

Police investigating the death at his flat in Hove, East Sussex, of Mr Nigel Weeks, aged 27, son of Mr Alan Weeks, the television sports commentator, who was found hanged, said yesterday there were no suspicious circumstances.

Youth dies in cliff fall

Martin Palaus, aged 16, of Midhurst Road, Ealing, west London, died on Wednesday after falling from a cliff-top path at St Gennys, near Bude, Cornwall, it was disclosed yesterday.

Oil slick plea

Oil leaks from the German ferry, Ems, which sank off the Norfolk coast last month, have killed hundreds of sea birds. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has asked the *Department of Trade to neutra*lize the hazard.

Anxious fortnight ends in solvency

How water authorities swam with the tide

By *Christopher Warman*
Local Government Correspondent

The last two weeks have been an anxious time for the nine English regional water authorities, beginning with the announcement of a government inquiry into their proposed charges for the coming year and ending with a pay settlement for their 32,000 manual workers substantially above their wishes.

The two events combined might have left the authorities in a state of disarray, if not near bankruptcy, but for various reasons they have emerged relatively unharmed and in good spirits.

The Thames Water Authority, the largest of the nine, said confidently last night: "We will take it in our stride."

The pay settlement, a 12.3 per cent increase, compares with the employers' first offer of 7.9 per cent and the subsequent offer of 10 per cent. Authorities are always reluctant to disclose the allowance in their budgets for wage increases, but it is certain that most would have budgeted for an increase of about 10 per cent, if not more.

When the Anglian Water Authority met on Wednesday to consider reductions in the budget, *they were told* that an increase in "high single figures" had been anticipated, but that the higher pay agreement was manageable.

The reason is that water is a capital intensive industry, and the wage bill, although important, is only a small part of the total costs.

The settlement adds £20.3m to a wage *bill of £164m, a small* sum compared with the industry's total revenue expenditure which was £1,500m in 1979-80.

For Thames, which has set a budget of £409m, each 1 per cent on the wage bill means an *extra cost* of £600,000. The settlement will therefore cost *more than £1m more than* a 10 per cent agreement would have done, but the authority has made its calculations and does not envisage any further adjustments.

North West allowed £63.4m for wages in its £276.5m budget, compared with £58m last year. In the same period its balances have been reduced from £13.9m to £3.2m, which leaves little room for manoeuvre.

"It is going to be very tight, and the extra will have to be *recouped from the consumer* in the future," the authority said.

Pay settlement apart, the authorities have had to reduce their charges at the Government's request after Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, sent in teams of independent accountants to identify areas where savings could be made.

That came after complaints, especially from industry and commerce, about the proposed increases, ranging from 14 to 28 per cent.

As a result of the exercise the range of increases is now from 12 to 19 per cent, but that is not simply the result of savings. In most cases the accountants reported that they could see little scope for savings, but asked for them nevertheless.

Anglian was told to cut operating costs by £2m

It was in fact the Government that allowed the authorities to propose lower charges, by relaxing its rules on the newly introduced current cost accounting system and easing the financial targets.

Thus, Anglican has been able to reduce its rate increase from 19.8 to 12.4 per cent, mostly with government help.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher congratulated the water authorities in the House of Commons on Tuesday for reducing their charges.

What she did not say was, that the Department of the Environment had got its sums wrong.

Cardinal Hume opens an investigation into the activities of Opus Dei

By *Dan van der Vat*

Cardinal Hume, the Archbishop of Westminster, has instituted an inquiry into the role of the secretive organization, Opus Dei, in the church in England, it was disclosed yesterday.

Dr John Roche, a former senior member of the organization and an Oxford don, went to Archbishop's House yester*day at the Cardinal's request to* hand a collection of confidential documents to one of the Cardinal's advisers.

An official at Archbishop's House said that Cardinal Hume had also asked Opus Dei to supply him with documents. The official confirmed that Dr Roche had complied with the request to produce his papers.

It was Dr Roche's concern about Opus Dei's recruitment of teenagers and the psychological pressures he claims it applies to its members that led him to show his documents to *The Times*, which published its findings on the organization last month. Other news organizations have since taken up the subject.

Dr Roche's documents include *copies of Cronica*, a publication *restricted to senior members of* Opus Dei, which Roman Catholic theologians consulted by *The Times* found to be theologically *questionable. He also handed* in letters he has received since the original article appeared from individuals about the experiences of themselves or their children in Opus Dei.

Opus Dei was founded in Spain in 1928 and claims a *worldwide membership of more* than 70,000, nearly all lay people.

A minority who constitute *its highest level of membership*, the full-time "numeraries", are required to mortify themselves by wearing an abrasive chain on their thighs for two hours a day and applying a multiple-thonged whip to themselves *once a week.*

Courage group and Bacardi agree drink pact

A peace formula was reached in the High Court yesterday by the makers of Bacardi rum and the Courage brewing group over the alleged substitution of Courage's own brand of white rum, Dry Cane, when public house customers ordered Bacardi.

Mr Charles Sparrow, QC, for Bacardi, told Mr Justice Walton that an agreement had been worked out. Under it, four companies which operate the Courage-managed chain of 1,600 public houses gave an under*taking not to supply* any *other* product in response to an order for Bacardi or Bacardi rum without explanation to, and assent by, the customer.

Bacardi undertook that if they learn of any case of alleged *substitution* they will give written notice with sufficient particulars to the manager of the public house concerned and to Courage's solicitor, and will give Courage reasonable assistance in the investigation of any such cases.

The undertakings will remain in effect until a full hearing of Bacardi's action

Earlier Mr Stanley Brodie, QC, for Courage, said it had always been Courage's policy to set their face against substitu*tion, not only in relation to* Bacardi but generally.

Bacon prices cut by Danish and British suppliers

By Hugh Clayton

A bacon war broke out yesterday as Danish and British suppliers cut prices.

The Danish Bacon Factories' Export Association, which supplies 43 per cent of the bacon *eaten in Britain, cut its* wholesale price of bacon sides by about 2p a pound and FMC, the largest British curer, reduced its price by 1p.

Mr Svend Bernsen, managing director of the Danish associa*tion, said:* "The consumer should benefit from the severe competition in the bacon market. We decided to reduce our price because many of our competitors have been giving substantial discounts on their official prices."

The latest survey of shop prices from the Meat and Livestock Commission shows that *some cuts of roasting pork cost* the same as a year ago.

Doctor says he would leave addicts to die

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

A doctor has written in the Manchester University magazine, *Communication*, *that he* believes drug addicts and distributors should be put on an uninhabited island, supplied with their drug needs, and allowed to die.

Dr Henry Ashworth, aged 60, *who has been in general prac*tice in the Ardwick district of Manchester for 30 years and is a lecturer in the Department of *General Practice at the univer*sity, said in the article: "I would put them on an uninhabited island off the coast of Scotland, supply them with their drugs, and there they would live until they died.

"The treatment success rate is dismally low and, at any rate, it would stop them infecting other members of the community with their pernicious habits."

Phantoms to be phased out in RAF economies

By *Arthur Reed*
Air Correspondent

lans to bolster Britain's air defences in the late 1980's by keeping in service three squadrons of McDonnell Douglas Phantom interceptors have been dropped because the scheme would be too expensive in money and manpower.

The idea was to have the Phantoms *flying alongside the* initial squadrons of the 165 air defence verrsions of the Tornado multirole aircraft which the Royal Air Force has on order.

But the cost of keeping three Phantom *squadrons in service*, instead of phasing them out as *the Tornado arrives, would be* as high as £00m.

The main costs would come from modernizing the Phantom's weapons and electronics systems and keeping its ageing airframe and engines in front*line condition, a process that is* proving increasingly expensive.

A plan to establish a third squadron of British Aerospace Lightning interceptors to join the only two in the RAF, both established at Binbrook, Lincolnshire, has been dropped in an effort to reduce the defence budget by £200m next year.

The Lightnings are, however, to be kept at Binbrook as a "*shadow*" *squadron* to be activated when necessary. Some are used for training. It would take about two weeks to work the squadron up into a state of high readiness.

In a further effort to plug the gaps in Britain's aviation defences, experienced jet pilots who are at "flying desks" in *administrative jobs will be sent* back to squadrons periodically to keep up their experience so that in an emergency they could move quickly back into the front line.

The difficulty arises in finding them *sufficient* spare flying hours when the RAF is forced to reduce the time each pilot spends in the air, as part of the service's economy drive.

RAF pilots are reduced to flying only 17 hours a month, from 22 hours previously, and observers of the Service wonder whether such a low figure will suffice to maintain safety standards.

Other recent cuts imposed on the RAF have reduced the number of Shackleton early warning aircraft, so that only three or four will be operational on any one day. Shackletons are due to be replaced by the jet-powered *Nimrod* by 1983-84.

Marshland drainage threat to Broads

By *John Young*
Planning Reporter

The Broads Authority is to *decide today whether to en*dorse the drainage of nearly 3,000 acres of grazing marsh*land near Great Yarmouth.*

The authority has designated the area, Halvergate Marshes, as of exceptional landscape significance, and its principal adviser is opposed to the scheme. *But its* strategy committee has recommended approval.

Conservationists fear not only that the landscape will be irrevocably changed, but also that the scheme will strengthen the *case for a barrier across* the River Yare to prevent salt water flooding arable land. The Nature Conservancy, which fears a threat to the whole character of the Broads, is opposed to the barrier, but doubts *have been expressed* about the authority's ability to influence the decisions of local land drainage committees.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England yesterday drew attention to the *cumulative effect of drainage* schemes, not only on the Broads but also on areas such as Amberley Wild Brooks, in West Sussex, the Somerset Levels and the Ribble estuary, in Lancashire.

Royal College of Art's new rector

Professor Lionel March, professor of design at the Open University, is to become rector of the Royal College of Art, in succession to Sir Richard Guyatt, who retires at the end *of the summer.*

The college's student union said last night it was confident that Professor March would give the support needed "to face up to the Department of Education and Science".

Downward trend in Anglican church membership reversed

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England appears to have entered a period of gradual, steady growth, reversing a longterm downward trend in numbers, according to the latest membership statistics, published today.

Figures for 1978 published last year indicated that the church was beginning to recover lost ground, although sometimes in the past one year's figures have shown a temporary upturn which turned out not to be a trend.

The 1979 figures not only continued the 1978 story of recovery, but also showed almost all the indices of church membership and practice moving upwards together.

There was a 12 per cent increase in baptisms over the ...e of one; a 5 per cent increase in Christmas communicants; a 2.3 per cent increase in membership of electoral rolls; and a 1 per cent increase in regular Sunday church attendance, which was estimated as 1,254,000.

The statistics, published as an appendix to *The Church of England Year Book* for this year, support the tone of optimism of the book's preface.

The preface asks whether it is too fanciful to regard last year and this as the springtime of the church, given that the mood of the church and of Christian people in England was "strangely confident" in spite of national and world political and economic difficulties.

"There seems to have been a recovery of nerve, a renewal of trust and of the Christian hope that God will guide his people through change and chance."

The Church of England Year Book 1981 (Church Information Office, Church House, Westminster, SW1, £7.50).

Charities clash over £12m fund for the homeless

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Salvation Army and the Church Army, making their first joint policy statement, said yesterday that they were about £10m short of the money they needed to maintain their networks of hostels for single, homeless people. At the same time another charity dealing with homlessness criticized their approach.

The dispute is about the allocation of a £12m government fund to provide accommodation for the single homeless. Many hostels are old and urgently need replacement, and closures would reduce places available by more than 8,000 over the next five years.

The organizations appealed for help at a press conference presided over the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, who said: "There could not be a more serious domestic problem for this country than the degredation that comes from unemployment and homelessness."

But the Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless rebuked the Church Army and the Salvation Army for trying to perpetuate large institutional hostels.

The Rev David Moore, superintendent of the Bow Mission and the campainging chairman, said: "I am shocked and saddened that the Church Army and the Salvation Army should so blatantly attempt to corner resources specifically earmarked for numerous small housing association projects."

Big institutions made the difficulties associated with homelessness worse, he said. Small, community-based projects enabled people to re-establish themselves.

Commission says lack of political will to implement its reports gives reason for anxiety

Government rebuked for inaction on proposed law reforms

By a Staff Reporter

The Government was rebuked yesterday for failing to act on law reforms proposed by the Law Commission and other bodies.

The commission's annual report said: "Law reform is ultimately in the hands of Parliament and of the government of the day, and it will not progress unless there exists the necessary political will that it should", the report says.

Of all its unimplemented reports noted in last year's annual report, only one has been fully implemented, the commission says. There are eight reports outstanding from 1977-79, which give rise to some anxiety.

"It becomes very difficult for us to plan our work if the Government does not express a view on recommendations made by ourselves and others within a reasonable time after delivery of the reports containing them."

Nor is the failure to act confined to proposals by the Law Commission, the report says. "A number of important law reform proposals made by other bodies during the last ten years or so have not been implemented and in some cases it is not even known whether they are accepted by the Government in principle."

Two examples in the law of tort are the recommendations by the Faulks committee on defamation, in 1975, and a number of those made by the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injuries, chaired by Lord Pearson.

"The absence of a policy decision on many of the recommendations in the Pearson report makes it impracticable for us to continue our work in that and related fields."

The commission points out that the Government is, on occasion, capable of very swift reaction. The commission's recommended reforms in its report on insurance law were welcomed in a consultative document by the Department of Trade within days of its publication.

The biggest dificulty is that implementation of most law reform involves legislation, and that takes up parliamentary and officials' time, the commission adds.

Few days are available for law reform Bills. Even consideration of proposals is put aside.

Among outstanding reports on which action is yet to be taken is one on criminal law, published in 1979, relating to interference with the course of justice, and one on co-ownership and occupation rights in the matrimonial home.

The commission concludes that although provision exists for a statutory and continuous review of the law, all that has been done is to create the basic machinery; the administrative and legislative means to make it effective are still wanting.

The report says that before next October papers will be published on breach of confidence and illegitimacy, and working papers on the rights of access to neighbouring land, criminal libel and blasphemy.

On breach of confidence, the commission's report will propose replacing the existing law with a statutory duty backed up by a range of civil remedies.

The commission emphasizes that it is not practicable to recommend detailed legislation in all breach of confidence circumstances. Instead, it will propose a broad framework within which solutions to particular difficulties can be worked out.

The Law Commission: fifteenth annual report, 1979-80, House of Commons paper 161 (Stationery Office, £3.90).

End of the line: The Old Station at Newmarket, Suffolk, which is due to be demolished at the beginning of next month. The building, attributed to Philip Hardwick, is listed as of historic and architectural interest, and in granting consent last December for its demolition Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said he hoped that it would be dismantled carefully so that as much of it as possible could be reerected and displayed elsewhere. The Laughton Construction Company of 51 High Street, Brandon, Suffolk, which plans to redevelop the site, is still awaiting offers.

Plan to alter maternity pay shelved

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government has decided to shelve for at least two years a planned redistribution of maternity benefits. No action will be taken until the postponed employers' sick pay scheme has been put into operation; that scheme is not expected to be implemented until April, 1983.

In the meantime the Government will use the Social Security Bill to raise the maximum maternity pay for working women from 90 per cent of salary to 100 per cent. That is intended to compensate women receiving maternity pay for the loss of earnings-related supplement, to be abolished next January.

The Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday called for the new power to be implemented on the same date as the earnings-related supplement abolition, to avoid hardship among pregnant working women.

The further shelving of the Government's proposals was disclosed in a special report from the Commons Social Services Committee yesterday. The report reproduced a letter from Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services,

Mr Jenkin ruled out the committe's plea for an early and full review of the financial needs of pregnant women and the adequacy of the maternity benefits system.

"The Government takes the view that a reexamination of the arrangements for paying maternity allowance and maternity pay to working women is likely to be much more rewarding if put in hand after the new sick pay scheme has been operating for a while", Mr Jenkin wrote.

First Special Report from the Social Services Committee, Session 1980-81 (Stationery Office, £1.10).

Solicitors as High Court judges proposed

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Solicitors should be able to become High Court judges, the Law Society says in a memorandum published today on the Supreme Court Bill, which is before Parliament.

The society notes that solicitors can become recorders and that after three years as recorders they can become circuit judges, who sit in the crown courts and county courts.

But although some solicitor circuit judges had sat as deputy High Court judges, they were not eligible for full appointment to the High Court bench. Of 334 circuit judges, 19 are solicitors. The Bill perpetuated the rule against solicitors by providing that High Court judges must be barristers of at least 10 years' standing. The society is pressing for an amendment making all circuit judges eligible to become High Court judges.

It also calls for the removal of the barriers stopping solicitors from holding certain senior legal appointments. For example, the permanent secretary to the Lord Chancellor can only be a barrister.

In contrast, the post of Official Solicitor can be filled only by a solicitor. The society proposes that all senior legal posts should be available to both branches of the legal profession, except where they require appearing in the higher courts, which solicitors are not allowed to do.

Litigants in trials where the judge dies or becomes ill and cannot complete the case should not have to bear the legal costs wasted, the society says. The Treasury should have to pay those costs.

The death or disability of a judge was a failure of the court system, for which the Lord Chancellor was responsible, and was beyond the control of the parties to the case, who should not have to pay the costs.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, had said that litigants should take out insurance against the possibility of the judge's death. But the society says, that presented difficulties if the judge did not wish to cooperate.

"It is the practice to insure in long cases, but even in short cases, where the death of the judge means that the case has to be heard again, the burden in costs can be a denial of justice."

The society also calls for defendants who are refused bail by magistrates to be given the right to appeal to crown court judges. Appeals against bail refusals from magistrates can go only to High Court judges.

Disabled and parks

A two-day conference on the disabled and national parks opened yesterday at the Calvert Trust's adventure centre for the disabled at Keswick, Cumbria.

Health group methods criticized

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

In its 13 years of existence the Health Education Council had totally misconceived its function, Lord Hunter of Newington, who is retiring as Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University, said yesterday.

He questioned whether any important results had been achieved by the council, whose function, as he saw it, was propaganda, not research.

Speaking at the university, he said the council had striven to become a research-based discipline, using the techniques and framework of established sciences.

It is already becoming evident, however, that these methods and techniques are often not applicable to health education", he said.

There is also a passionate desire in the council that health educators become a professional body, and even though no satisfactory base has been established for such a profession an ambitious programme of education has been embarked on.

"One of its problems is that it sees itself as a national organization responsible for fostering health education. It has shown all the weaknesses of a national body without a firm base, trying to do a job which perhaps should not be attempted in that way at all."

Instead of researching new dangers to health, he said, the council should seek ways of bringing home to people "the massive dangers that are already known and identified and the cures for which are similarly well established—fluoride, less smoking and less drinking.

Fine of £500 over radiation burns

From Our Correspondent
Whitehaven

British Nuclear Fuels Ltd was fined £500 at Whitehaven Magistrates Court, Cumbria, yesterday for failing to provide safe working conditions at its Windscale plant.

The company pleaded guilty to a charge under the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, over an incident in which a radiographer received three severe radiation burns to his hand while using an X-ray source to examine welds.

The magistrates were told that the worker, Mr Peter Salmon, of Whitehaven, could have lost his hand if the radiation dose had been higher. He received doses estimated at 2,000-2,500 rems to each burn on his hand.

The company faces a claim for compensation over the incident from Mr Salmon's union, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. It is the first time the nuclear plant has been prosecuted for a nuclear incident under the Health and Safety Act.

Mr Leslie Clark, for the prosecution listed a series of failures to observe regulations that had contributed to Mr Salmon being burnt. He said that when the X-ray source was examined some days after the incident a safety filter over the aperture was missing.

He added: "At the time of the incident BNF were having trouble meeting their work programme and management allowed the recommended procedure in operating the machine to be overlooked.

"X-rays could be energized while the radiographer was still touching the machine head", he said. A klaxton warning on the device might not have been audible

A control key used to isolate the machine for safety reasons was left in at all times. Of 20 X-ray sources in use at Windscale, an inspection showed that 12 had not been registered.

The burns could have necessitated amputation if they had been worse, but Mr Clark said: "It is unlikely there will be any long-term effect". Mr Salmon is back at work at the plant.

Nobel winners head drive to ban chemical weapons

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A group of eminent scientists is seeking to prevent British agreement to stockpile a new family of nerve gases and chemical weapons being developed in the United States.

The group includes four Nobel Prize winners, Sir Peter Medawar, FRS, Dr Dorothy Hodgkin, OM, FRS, Professor Maurice Wilkins, FRS, and Dr Frederick Sanger, FRS, who opened the campaign with a meeting at the House of Lords to announce the formation of the Russell Committee against Chemical Weapons.

The American Government is to build a factory in Arkansas to manufacture the latest generation of nerve gas chemicals.

As well as petitioning the Government to oppose a chemical arms race, an appeal is being made to all scientists and technologists to reject any research associated with the production of such weapons.

A statement signed by 20 senior scientists suggests that Britain might establish depots for American chemical weapons, reactivate manufacturing in the United Kingdom or equip British forces with nerve gas weapons purchased abroad.

Trawlermen seek British fleet to process catches

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Trawlermen's leaders appealed to the Government yesterday not to allow the dwindling distant-water fishing fleet to disappear. "The death sentence has been written, but not yet pronounced", the British Fishing Federation said.

Senior members of the federation asked Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to consider creating a British processing fleet to replace the foreign vessels that buy British fish.

The number of British distant-water trawlers, defined as vessels more than 140 ft long, has fallen from more than 170 to fewer than 60 since Britain joined the EEC in 1973.

Mr Powell gives another warning of violence in attack on nationality Bill

By Philip Webster
Parliamentary Staff

Mr Enoch Powell gave a new warning yesterday of future conflict in Britain resulting from the apprehension of the indigenous population about the growth of an immigrant population with dual loyalties and backgrounds.

In a speech echoing many of his past controversial statements on the subject, Mr Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, was attacking the nationality Bill's provision that children born to parents "settled" in the United Kingdom should have British citizenship.

He had moved an amendment in the Bill's standing committee to delete it, arguing that it was a charter for widescale dual nationality. His amendment was rejected by 18 votes to three.

Mr Powell said: "The greatest apprehension and uncertainty in our society is among the people who have no other home and no other nationality than British, who think they see that home and that nation being radically altered and their environment fundamentally changed by the progressive and apparently inexorable growth of a population whose dual loyalties and backgrounds we have been discussing in this committee.

"They see, and they see rightly, that that population in the foreseeable future will make up a third of the population of many of our great cities."

He said the danger for the future lay in the apprehensions and insecurity of those who thought they were British and thought they knew what their nation was.

He added: "I cannot believe—I would if I could—that the constitution of our society will continue to develop, as foreseeably it must over the coming decades, without an outcome in terms of conflict.

"I ask myself if the apprehensions, mutual insecurity, mutual jealousy, and fear for the future should issue in physical violence in the future, should we be better placed to cope with that if we had ourselves by our own act naturalized, as it were, from the start the growth of that population or if we had acknowledged their separate nationhood."

Indian opposition: The Indian Government said yesterday that it would take a firm stand on Britain's nationality Bill (Reuter reports from Delhi). Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, is likely to raise the matter when Mrs Margaret Thatcher visits India in April.

Some opposition members demanded that India should withdraw from the Commonwealth if Britain refused to amend the Bill.

Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, the External Affairs Minister, told the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) that the Government would not hesitate to tell Britain if it found that the Bill offended basic principles of human dignity.

More safety pill bottles

By a Staff Reporter

The use of child-resistant containers is being extended to tablets and capsules dispensed by chemists' shops to reduce the number of children admitted to hospital each year with accidental drug poisoning.

The scheme will cost the National Health Service between £900,000 and £1,200,000 a year, but should save more than that in hospital costs. More than ...000 children with poisoning are admitted to hospital each year, most of them aged under five, and 25 of them die.

Dr Gerard Vaughan, minister for Health, announced yesterday the extension of the scheme, which already applies to aspirins and paracetamol.

The success of that scheme, which in the North-east, for example, reduced admissions among the under-fives for drug poisoning from 947 to 306 in two years, and in Wales reduced the number from 644 to 181 over the same period, prompted the extension.

With treatment of a child in hospital costing £67 a day, Dr Vaughan estimated that if the scheme was successful hospital costs should be reduced by £1,500,000 a year.

The public will be able to ask for conventional containers, particularly as the elderly and arthritic can have difficulty in opening the child-resistant type.

Lightning holes jumbo jet on way to London

Lightning smashed a two-foot hole in the nose cone of a British Airways Boeing 747 jumbo jet carrying 202 passengers five minutes after it took off from Los Angeles for London yesterday.

The aircraft's weather radar system was destroyed, but despite that, and the hole, the jet continued to Heathrow airport. Captain Ray Dodwell, the pilot, said there had been no danger. "Luckily the lightning struck on a non-pressurized area. It did not affect the aircraft's handling and we did not know there was a hole in the nose cone until we landed.

Criticism of two authors upheld

A specialist writer for a political weekly was fully entitled to seek to demolish assertions and allegations published elsewhere and her criticism did not entail a right of reply for those who had made the allegations, the Press Council has ruled.

The council rejected complaints by Dr Arthur R. Butz, of Illinois, and M Robert Faurisson, of Vichy. Each complained that having published an article attacking him, the *New Statesman* refused to give an opportunity to reply.

Mr Richard Verrall, editor of the National Front *Spearhead*, took part in correspondence in the *New Statesman* on Nazi treatment of Jews. He challenged the figure of six million Jews exterminated by the Nazis.

That letter was set into an article by Miss Gitta Sereny which was introduced as demolishing neo-Nazi apologists.

Miss Sereny saw indecency in holding dialogue with individuals such as Mr Verrall. People like Mr Verrall and Dr Butz mixed truth with lies. Author of a book on the death-camp programme, she surveyed other publications, including a book by Dr Butz.

She recalled that M Faurisson, associate professor of literature at Lyons, had told her her book proved the gas chambers never existed; she found that double-think fascinating.

Dr Butz sent a letter for publication saying his book answered Miss Sereny's arguments,

M Faurisson sent a letter challenging Mis Sereny point by point

The editor, Mr Bruce Page, told Dr Butz he did not publish the letters

The Press Council's adjudication was:

The complainants have made assertions and allegations in books and other published material which the writer of the *New Statesman* article was fully entitled to criticize and seek to demolish. That criticism did not give rise to a right of reply or opportunity further to respond on the complainant's parts. Their complaint against the *New Statesman* is rejected. The Press Council appreciate Miss Sereny's full and helpful cooperation in its investigation.

WEST EUROPE

Spanish media shuns terrorist ultimatum on kidnapped consuls

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Feb 26

Spanish news media have continued to ignore almost completely an ultimatum from Basque terrorists to publish reports about alleged police brutality as a condition for the release of the three consuls they kidnapped last Thursday.

The plight of the consuls of Austria, El Salvador and Uruguay, kidnapped from their homes in the Basque country by the political-military wing of the outlawed ETA separatist organization was almost forgotten in the excitement caused by the attempted putsch which failed on Tuesday.

ETA said, in a communiqué on Monday, that the consuls' release depended on publication and broadcasts of reports about police brutality. It insisted that Spain's main newspapers and radio and television networks broadcast the full text of a 1980 report by Amnesty International, another report allegedly prepared by the Basque regional Parliament and colour photographs which purportedly show injuries to the body of a suspected Basque extremist who died after nine days of police interrogation.

So far, few Spanish newspapers have even bothered to explain whether they intend to comply or why they will not, and none of them has complied in full. Nor has the state-run radio and television network or private radio networks.

One exception was the San Sebastian daily *El Diario Vasco*, which today published an Amnesty International report, plus two photographs of the allegedly tortured man and an article summing up complaints by organizations and individuals about alleged brutal treatment by police. It published a leading article explaining that it was doing so in the hope of saving the hostages' lives.

The respected Madrid daily, *El Pais*, reminded its readers that it printed extensive extracts from the Amnesty International report in its edition of last December 3

The Bilbao daily, *Deia*, which reflects the opinions of the powerful Basque Nationalist Party, said that in the past it had published summaries of reports, including the Amnesty International document, and it did not feel obliged to reprint the same material.

Malta Bill strikes at rule of law, jurists claim

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Feb 26

The International Commission of Jurists said today that the code of Organization and Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, now under consideration by the Parliament of Malta, "strikes at the basic principles of the rule of law".

The commission pointed out that the Bill proposed to establish a government-appointed body of five members which would "threaten the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession". Moreover it would severely reduce opportunities for citizens to challenge a government decision before the courts.

The Government of Malta regards the Bill as an instrument for effecting "a comprehensive reform of the judicial system".

Dispute over wrecks: The Maltese Government is considering withdrawing from the Council of Europe, Mr Dom Mintoff, the Prime Minister, told Parliament in Valletta today.

He gave as a reason the council's reluctance to discuss the dispute between Malta and Britain over the removal of Second World War bombs and wrecks around the island.—Agence France-Presse.



Spain's new Prime Minister and Señora Calvo Sotelo with their eight children Pablo, Andres, José Marie, Victor, Pedro, Pilar, Juan and Leopoldo.

Spain takes steps to prevent further coup attempts

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 26

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo swore before King Juan Carlos today "to protect and ensure that others protect" Spain's democratic Constitution when he took the oath of office as Prime Minister.

The ceremony took place in an atmosphere of marked nervousness as the extent of Monday's failed coup sank deeper into the general consciousness. This was noticeable today, both in political circles and in the higher echelons of the Army.

The Prime Minister's first overriding task, as he described it last night, is to steady the nation by drawing the lessons from Monday's seizure of the Cortes and so eliminate the possibility of a future military takeover.

"There is only one Army in Spain, loyal and obedient to the King, not twoone loyal and one wanting to stage a coup", Lieutenant-General Ricardo Arozarena, declared publicly when he took over today as the new Captain General of the fourth military region in Catalonia. His predecessor in Barcelona has been moved to replace Lieutenant-General Milans del Bosch, leader of the failed coup in Valencia.

The general nervousness also obliged the joint chiefs of staffs in Madrid to deny a series of rumours today and even spike some before they arose. For instance, they took the unusual step of explaining beforehand that two battalions of tanks would be returning through Madrid later today from manoeuvres in the Aragon region which were started before Monday's events. There was absolutely no reason for public alarm, they said.

The exact role played on armoured division, thought to Monday night by the elite be crucial in any military takeover of the capital, is now under investigation. This is one of the main matters for consideration by Colonel Ignacio Diez de Aguilar, the military's investigating magistrate, who is now inquiring into the identity of those responsible for the plot.

As the Prime Minister prepared his Cabinet list, the four main political parties and the trade union confederation today issued a call for a mass silent demonstration tomorrow in support of democracy.

This is likely to be a test for the public mood of mingled fear, shock and possibly even some indifference under the impact of Monday's events. The demonstrations are to take place in Madrid, Valencia and Barcelona. In the Basque country, the national parties have also ordered demonstrations, but the Basque extreme nationalists want their own counter-demonstration.

Señor Felipe Gonzalez, leader of the Socialists, the biggest opposition party, said last night that the Prime Minister had made "a grave error" in refusing his offer to join a coalition and help defend Spain's threatened democratic institutions, Señor Calvo Sotelo is composing his Cabinet entirely from members of his own Centre Democratic Union party. He argues that long negotiations would be required for a broad coalition, and these would not be possible at so critical a juncture. He maintains that his own party, now backed by 18 votes from the moderate Catalans and the right-wing Democratic Coalition, will be well able to consolidate democracy.

However, the Socialists insist that the new Cabinet must be made up solely of democratic conviction and should not include those converted to democracy in the last years of Francoism. This dispute is likely to remain a leading issue in the coming months, and it is with this warning in his ears that the Prime Minister has to decide on the crucial appointments to the Ministries of Defence and the Interior.

There were understandably highly emotional scenes when the Cortes reconvened yesterday. Señor Landelino Lavilla, the Speaker, who read a telegram from Mme Veil, president of the European Parliament, praising the Cortes for having served the cause of European democracy, was later reduced to tears as he reasserted the authority of Spain's freely elected Parliament.

General Manuel Gutierrez, the outgoing Deputy Prime Minister in charge of defence matters, who though over 70, fought to take the pistol away from Colonel Tejero on Monday, was applauded and then kissed by women MPs.

King Juan Carlos has granted Señor Adolfo Sáarez, the outgoing Prime Minister, the title of Duke of Suárez.

Dispute ove equality follows deatl sentence

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 26

There are now seven men i French prisons under sentenc of death awaiting the fina decision of the Cour de Cass tion, the highest appeal cour and a possible presidentia reprieve.

This is the highest numbe since 1965, when four wer retried and three reprieved There may be more in comin months if the present trend o juries towards greater severity continues.

Yesterday, after seven and a half hours, the jury of the assizes of the Val de Marne, south-west of Paris, returned a verdict of death against Yves Maupetit, aged 32, and of life Terriel, aged 50.

They were found guilty of the murder of three people in 1977 and 1978 in particularly harrowing circumstances. The judges, the jury, the reporters and the public were spared none of the gruesome details of the crimes.

The trial was held in the ultra-modern court at Creteil, the new town south-west of Paris, and close-ups of the mutilated bodies of the victims and of their ransacked homes, were projected on television screens.

The Creteil verdict has given a further twist to the unending controversy in France over the death penalty. It was, many commentators have pointed out, a paradoxical and unbalanced verdict. Both defendants emerged, throughout the five-day proceedings, as equally guilty of the charges against them.

But Mme Terriel was spared the death sentence, most commentators agree, simply because she was a woman. The last woman to be sentenced to death was in 1973; in the island of Réunion and the last to be guillotined was in 1949, at Angers.

Since then women have been systematically reprieved. It is probable, after the Creteil verdict, that no woman will ever be sentenced to death in France again.

"This discrimination in the face of the guillotine is no less shocking," *Le Quotidien de Paris* comments today, "than discrimination over wages or employment. If the crimes of Maupetit called for no other response than death, the same was true of Terriel. Or vice versa."

M Maupetit pleaded to the last that he had not killed. Mme Terriel maintained that she had only killed one of the victims.

Closely linked with the controversy over the death penalty is the problem of popular juries, who have been responsible for the recent spate of death sentences. Since the reform of 1978, which was adopted unanimously by Parliament and regarded as a step towards greater democracy, jurors are no longer chosen from among notabilities, retired professional people or local officials on a list drawn up by the authorities.

In the past, juries tended to be predominantly rural and conservative. Now they are much more truly representative of a cross-section of French society, and therefore reflect its fears and instincts.

Dutch Labour Party call to bar cruise missiles

Amsterdam, Feb 26. — A future Dutch coalition government that included the Labour Party would be a guarantee against the deployment in the Netherlands of American nuclear missiles, Mr Max van den Berg, the party chairman, said here today.

In his opening address to the party congress, Mr van den Berg called for closer contact with Belgium, Denmark and Norway on nuclear disarmament.

He said it was the Labour Party's duty to fight the deployment and use of nuclear arms, even if this meant the Netherlands would have to review its international political commitments.

Referring to the 48 cruise missiles that Nato wants to deploy in the Netherlands as part of its European nuclear modernization plan, he said: "The Labour Party in government will be an absolute guarantee that the cruise missiles will not come to the Netherlands.

"The Labour Party can and must play an important role nationally and internationally in the political movement that is against a new, rising cold war atmosphere and rearmament", he said.

His comments reflected the majority view in the powerful socialist movement, but they did not touch on the nuclear controversy that threatens the position of Mr Joop den Uyl, the Labour Party leader.

While a majority of the local branches favour immediate dismantling of all six nuclear task forces, Mr den Uyl wants to retain one or two to give the Dutch a stake in future international disarmament negotiations.

With a general election scheduled for May 26, the Labour Party congress is, by tradition, the starting signal for the active campaign to begin.
—UPI.

West German standards place stress on children

School system blamed for suicides

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 26

The tragedy is so frequent it hardly makes more than a few lines in the papers: a 13-year-old girl shoots herself; a 14-year-old boys hangs himself in his bedroom; another throws himself under a train.

The reason is depressingly familiar. One has had a bad report at school, another cannot face an examination, a third is afraid to tell his parents he has to repeat a year.

Now young West German teachers have accused the education system, with its "marks and performance cult" of being partly responsible for this "mass drama". They have listed chilling figures. Between 500 and 700 schoolchildren commit suicide each year; 18,000 young people attempt to kill themselves; 600 die from drugs.

Leaders of an association of young German teachers told a press conference this week that the education system failed to pay enough attention to the individual personalities and problems of children.

They appealed to the education authorities to rethink the aims of education. Teachers, they said, were trained simply to transmit knowledge. They were not taught to encourage the personal development of each child.

The association, an offshoot of one of the main teachers' unions, represents 30,000 young elementary and secondary school teachers and, without doubt, the views of millions of parents.

In Germany, where paper qualifications and examination results often count for more than actual ability, success at school is essential for success in life.

The stress on both children and their anxious parents has increased in recent years with growing youth unemployment and the need to compete even harder for jobs.

After a thorough study of the problem a few years ago the Federal Education Ministry tried to encourage a more relaxed, less achievement-oriented attitude with a campaign "Fun at School". But the *Länder*, which actually run the schools, took little notice and Ministry officials consider it a failure.

A clue to the attitude still prevailing in many schools was given recently by the president of another union which represents grammar school teachers Herr Clemens Christians claimed that standards required from school children were slipping badly and that they should be made to take their school work more seriously.

"Work should not be fun and free time should not be a serious matter", he said. Standards had dropped particularly badly, he said, in North Rhine Westphalia where children were judged according to their effort and progress as well as their marks.

Worse still, the number of words children were expected to learn in English, he said, had been reduced during the past 10 years by one-third.

20 police hurt in clash with Berlin squatters

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Feb 26

Twenty policemen were injured, seven seriously, in a fight to prevent the occupation of a vacant house by squatters last night.

Shop windows were smashed and 16 police vehicles were damaged during the clash between about 300 squatters and sympathizers and 100 police in the Schöneberg district of the city.

The present policy in Berlin is to try to prevent any further occupation of empty houses

High-speed train

Paris, Feb 26.—A new world railspeed record of 380 km (236 miles) per hour was claimed for the French high-speed electric train during a test run today.

Concern over collapse of five hotels in tremor zone

From Mario Modiano
Athen, Feb 26

Life in Athens went back to normal today—traffic jams and all—as thousands of inhabitants who had fled to the countryside after Tuesday's severe earthquakes, returned to their homes and work, evidently reassured by the relative calm in the past 24 hours.

The Athens Observatory announced that between 6 pm yesterday and 7 am today it had recorded only 130 post-earthquake tremors, compared with 652 in the preceding 18 hours. They measured between 3 and 4.7 on the Richter scale, but were too faint for the Athenians to notice.

The death toll has risen to 16: six in the Athens area, the others in the region of the Gulf of Corinth where the epicentre of the earthquakes was. Most of the victims died either of heart attacks or in accidents while trying to flee the homes.

Rescue workers were st searching the debris of t vacant eight-floor hotel Vrachati, west of Corin which collapsed burying it found the watchman, his w and one son. The total injur peopl etaken to hospital not exceed 90.

About 3,000 buildi sustained some damage, mai in the vicinity of the gulf: either collapsed or were m uninhabitable. More than 1. tents were sent to the stric area.

Some concern has been pressed over the collapse of many as five hotel, fortuna all empty. There were sug tions that an inquiry should held.

In a Piraeus suburb large blocks of flats built 1934 for refugee families, v declared unfit for habita

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OVERSEAS

Soviet jammers face increase in radio broadcasts by BBC

By Jan Bradley

The BBC is to launch a new language service for Afghanistan as well as increase its broadcasts to the Soviet Union *in an effort to counter jamming.*

Announcing the developments in overseas broadcasting, Mr Douglas Muggeridge, managing director of the BC's External Services, also revealed yesterday that Radio France International (RFI) has been asked by the French Government to submit plans for a round the clock world service in French *modelled on the BBC World* Service.

The new BBC lanuage service will be in Pashto which is spoken by about 18m people in Afghanistan and also on the North-West frontier of Pakistan. *The BBC already broadcasts in* Farsi, the other language widely understood in Afghanistan. The new service will start in the summer.

From the end of March the corporation will transmit in *Russian for an extra* 30 minutes a day. That will allow a restructuring of the output to the Soviet Union to provide a continuous five-hour block of programmes every night from seven until midnight, Moscow time. "*We will be doing this on an* experimental basis. We hope it will help the listeners and confuse the jammers", *Mr* Muggeridge said.

He also said that before the Soviet Union *re-imposed* jamming of the BBC's Russian Services last August, it had an estimated 12 to 13 million listeners. Although there was little prospect of an early end to the jamming there was evidence that the Russian service could still be heard outside major conurbations. The BBC's English language world service *is not jammed by the Russians.*

Its Turkish *service* is also to be increased from an hour to 90 minutes a day in order to meet the greatly increased demand for information since the military take-over in Turkey.

Mr Muggeridge said that the increases in services, which had been decided after consultation *with the Foreign Office, did not* presage a new, expansionist phase for BBC External Services.

"In the past year we have sustained a cut of £3.1m which has come out of capital and we continue to live *under the constant threat of cuts*", he said. "It would obviously be unrealistic to ask for more money but we do ask that our existing services be maintained".

He said it as ironic that the BBC, widely *acknowledged* as the leading overseas broadcasting organization in the word, should be struggling to maintain its present *service* when other countries, in both West Europe and the Eastern block, *were greatly expanding their* external broadcasting.

For example French Council of Ministers decided on Monday to authorize the building of a relay station in French Guiana to cover Central and Latin America *and the United* States.

As for the expansion of overseas broadcasting by the Eastern block, Mr Muggeridge said the Soviet Union now had 140 transmitters in operation compared with *the BBC's 80.* Some BBC transmitters are now more than 40 years old and have considerably less power than those used by other countries.

Israel says Egyptians slow in cooperating

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 26

The first anniversary of the historic exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt was celebrated on a sour note today with an official statement from the Israeli Foreign Ministry *outlining numerous* alleged "shortcomings" in the promised normalization.

"After a year of experience with the normalization process, it may be said that slow progress has been made in Israeli-Egyptian relations", the ministry complained.

"This progress could have been more substantial if Egypt *had been* more forthcoming. *What* has been achieved is mainly the result of initiative and untiring efforts on the part of Israel, the Egyptian attitude fluctuating between passivity and opposition."

The strongly worded document accused Egypt of being *in contravention of the Camp* David accord by attempting to link normalization with progress in the Palestinian autonomy talks, and by using delaying tactics in advance of Israel's final pull-back from Sinai due in April, 1982.

Blaming the Egyptian authorities for discouraging travel to Israel by making passports and permits difficult to obtain, the statement noted that since a memorandum on tourism was agreed last March, *less than* 1,500 Egyptian nationals had visited Israel compared with *over* 25,000 Israeli visitors to Egypt.

The Foreign Ministry criticized Egypt for procrastination in ratifying agreements on trade, cultural exchanges and civil aviation. It also cited "an Egyptian *tendency*, particularly at the sub-presidential level, to deliberately slow down the progress and rate of normalization".

In the crucial field of economic cooperation, the Israelis point out bitterly that the public sector of the Egyptian economy — which accounts for about 85 per cent of the whole—is still not permitted to trade with Israel.

Figures released last month by the Israeli Ministry of Commerce show that since the signing of the peace treaty in March 1979, Israeli exports to Egypt were estimated at only £4.5m. Precise details of trading are difficult to obtain, *but the* largest single deal is believed to have involved a consignment of hatching eggs and chicks flown from Tel Aviv to Cairo last November.

The clearest explanation of Egypt's *reluctance to participate* wholeheartedly in normalizing relations was given last November, when Vice-President Hosni Mubarak placed the blame directly on Mr Mendachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister. He said that Egyptians could not be expected to open their arms to Israelis *while settlements* were being expanded in the occupied territories and after the law declaring east Jerusalem as an integral part of Israel's capital.

In the ensuing months, the Israeli settlement programme *has been further* accelerater, but no reference is made to this in the three-page document issued today in Jerusalem.

On the positive side, the Israelis refer to a number of "assets in the interim balance sheet" *in addition to the establishment* of full diplomatic ties and the regular functioning of both embassies.

Islamic revival movement suspected of terrorism

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 26

Israelis were alarmed by the exposure of an alleged Israeli Arab terrorist *ring organized* as an Islamic revivalist movement. Scores of Arab citizens of Israel were arrested in villages along the pre-1967 armistice lines over the past few weeks, and arms caches were seized, but *the security authorities* maintained a news black out until last night.

Some of the lesser members charged *only* with belonging to an illegal organization have already been sent to prison for one year by a military court, sitting in camera. The trial of the main suspects is to begin next week, also before military judges and behind closed doors. They are accused of terrorist activities, illegal possession of weapons, and *incitement.*

Israeli sources said that the ring was politically motivated *but that the leaders* adopted the cloak of Islamic revival to benefit from the popularity it gained since Ayatollah Khomeini ousted the Shah in Iran. Young Israeli Muslims are attending mosque services in *increasing* numbers, growing beards, and observing other religious practices.

Professor Moshe Sharon, of the Hebrew University, formerly the Prime Minister's adviser on Arab affairs, said in an interview: "The Islamic commitment means they are not seeking rights or the good will of the Israeli rulers, but to end the abnormal condition of Muslims being ruled by non-Muslims. It means stagihad *(holy war)*".

Mr Amnon Linn, specialist on Arab affairs in the parliamentary foreign affairs committee, said extreme *nationalists* had been a fringe element in Arab-Israeli society until the 1973 war. But, growing Arab international power and the world recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization convinced a *growing number* that the Israelis were on the decline and the Arabs on the rise.

He added that the PLO had ordered the establishment of cadres for the next round. The countdown would begin after *Israel* completed the evacuation of Sinai next year.



Shoulder to shoulder: President Castro of Cuba is flanked in Moscow yesterday by his Soviet comrade, President Brezhnev

Mr Brezhnev pledges his support for Cuba

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 26

President Brezhnev today met President Fidel Castro of Cuba, who is attending the twenty-sixth Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, and assured him of continued Soviet support in the face of "another anti-Cuban campaign" launched by the United States.

During his speech on Tuesday, Dr Castro condemned American support for the ruling junta in El Salvador and said his country would not back down in the *face of aggression. Threats* by "imperialist Yankees" to intervene in El Salvador, he said, demonstrated Washington's intention to impose its own political regime throughout the Western hemisphere.

According to the Tass summary of his speech, he accused "imperialists" of malicious lies against communist countries, trying to prove that events in Central America were not the result of the "rightful indignation" of the oppressed but the result of international conspiracies.

A *Soviet spokesman said* he had also denied that Cuba was sending arms to guerrillas in El Salvador, and declared that any move by the United States to block Cuban arms exports to that country would be senseless as there were no Cuban ships in the area.

An East German magazine, *published in East Berlin today*, said liberation movements such as the one in El Salvador could *expect aid from the Soviet* block "in whatever form and quantity they want". The weekly magazine, *Weltbühne*, said that, if it were not for the Soviet Union and other socialist states, most liberation struggles would be doomed to failure.

The 5,000 delegates to the party congress today unanimously approved the *report* delivered on Monday by President Brezhnev and formally instructed all party organizations to be guided by its provisions.

Their vote ends what has been officially termed the "discussion" of the report, drawn up by the policy-making Central *Committee, which sets the* guidelines and priorities for Soviet policy and development for the next five years. Tomorrow Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, will deliver a more detailed analysis of the economic outlook.

The congress also voted to *redraft the party's programme,* a fundamental statement of aims and intentions drawn up 20 years ago under Khrushchev.

This document has become an embarrassment, since it laid down specific dates by which *Soviet production and output* were to have overtaken those in the West. It also predicted that by 1981 the Russians would have easily outstripped the Americans in production of consumer goods.

The resolution ordered the Central Committee to make "the necessary amendments and additions" to the present programme so that it "correctly" mirrored the laws of world social development.

The congress also explained that "new phenomena" had appeared on the world scene, which can be taken to mean that the Soviet Communist Party will now bend its ideology to give greater fraternal recognition to national liberation movements that do not fall into the strictly orthodox communist mould.

The proceedings of the past three days have been far removed from any Western concept of a debate. After Mr Brezhnev's lengthy document, *members of the Politburo* and then party secretaries from the 15 constituent republics of the Soviet Union delivered speeches.

Without exception, each praised the report as *far-sighted and all-embracing*, spoke of the achievements of the Communist Party, and paid glowing personal tribute to the 74-year-old Soviet leader. Local party secretaries dwelt on economic *developments* in their *areas*, but few *raised* any of the problems and shortcomings dwelt on with such frankness by Mr Brezhnev.

They were followed by the leaders of the East European delegations, then by others from among the 123 delegations present.

There have been no criticisms of Soviet *policy, though* Poland's difficulties have been a strong theme in most foreign delegates speeches, as well as defence of the Soviet Union against American charges of backing international terrorism.

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Mr Reagan draws a thin red line

Washington Commentary
Patrick Brogan

President Reagan has decided to draw the line in El Salvador. Thus far and no farther will the communist powers be permitted to expand their influence in the Western world. It is all rather puzzling for foreigners and for Americans, too, for whom El Salvador has never been a matter of great concern.

Twenty years ago President Kennedy tried to reverse the verdict of history and overthrow the communist government in Cuba. That was the first communist state that had *not been established by force* of Russian arms or in a country contiguous with existing communist *states*—and the first in the Americas.

Mr Kennedy failed and there have been many other *communist states set up since then* in various parts of the world.

The thing about El Salvador *is* that if the United States is really determined to stop communism there, it will succeed. There is no powerful and ruth*less neighbour, like* North Vietnam, to serve as a base of operations for the rebels.

El *Salvador is not immense* and populous, like China. It is the very opposite, with a population of about six million in a country the size of Wales.

Neither is its government burdened with a dictator whose *personal fortunes are indissolubly* bound up with the regime's. The Sandinistas won in Nicaragua because they were the only possible alternative to the Somozas. Castro might have been defeated if Batista had *been removed in time*. If the Shah had abdicated four years ago, a moderate government might now rule in Tehran while the ayatollah told his beads in Qom.

The Salvadorean dictator, General Humberto Romero, *was* overthrown 16 months ago. El Salvador is on the west coast of the isthmus, with right-wing neighbours to the north and east. The insurgents can be supplied only by arms smuggled overland through Honduras, by air or by sea.

Their only base is Nicaragua, whose government and economy are very susceptible to American pressure and disinclined to risk everything for the sake of the Salvadorean revolution.

The Americans will send the Salvadorean army all the arms and other supplies it needs to fight the insurgents. And in such circumstances that army can probably do the job. There is talk of sending an American *training mission* and even of setting up naval patrols to stop arms being smuggled from Nicaragua to El Salvador through the Gulf of Fonseca.

That was where an earlier gun runner, Captain Horatio Hornblower, RN, delivered to the rebels a cargo of arms from an imperial power bent on *stirring up trouble* in Central America.

The Americans will draw their line; communism will be stopped, at least for the moment. It might even be possible then for the President *and for Mr Alexander* Haig, his Secretary of State, to claim a real victory, to have succeeded when Truman (in China), Kennedy (in Cuba) and Johnson (in Vietnam) all failed.

The fact that it will be a very *small* and *easy* victory is another matter.

What Mr Reagan wants to do is to establish an image of mastery. He wants the world (and the nation) to see in him a decisive President, quite *unlike Jimmy Carter, who* knows exactly what he wants and how to get it.

In economic affairs, he has submitted what appears to be a revolutionary new approach to the budget; in foreign affairs *he wants to face down the* communists.

In his election campaign he said *that* his dearest wish was that there should be "no more Vietnams". He meant that the United States should not abandon any more of its friends.

There are certainly some of his supporters who consider military dictatorships in South America to be their friends. Senator John Tower, for instance, delights in the junta that overthrew democracy in Bolivia last year.

For Mr Reagan and Mr Haig, however, the friendship is felt for the people and the country. *They are convinced (and who* is to blame them?) that the lot of the Vietnamese or the Cambodians is far worse now than it would have been if communism had been defeated, and that *it is* their duty to prevent a further tragedy falling upon the people of El Salvador.

After some hesitation, the Administration has decided to back the Salvadorean junta which has a civilian aspect even though real power rests with the army. The alternative was to abandon the junta and its plans for land reform and to back the former oligarchy, which continues to plot against the junta from Miami.

So if he wins his victory, what will Mr Reagan do with it?

The Soviet Union is not going to make great efforts to establish communism in El Salvador. In 1974 they abandoned President Allende to his fate and they care much less about El Salvador.

*There are other places, how*ever, about which they care a great deal and where Mr Reagan, emboldened by his easy victory in Central America, will find himself in sudden and dangerous con*frontation if he tries to repeat* his success.

El Salvador is a sham issue but, to take the most extreme case, Poland is real. Mr Haig at least knows better than to draw the wrong conclusion from an *early* and minor *suc*cess, but there are others who do not.

Opposition MPs in Iran defiant

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 26

Four Iranian opposition parliamentarians told a mass rally in Tehran *today* that they would not bow to pressure and stop criticizing the dictatorial tendencies they saw in Iran.

"It is the reasoning of dictatorial regimes to stop people from criticism under various *pretexts* . . . pretexts *also* used by the Shah's regime", declared Mr Mehdi Bazargan, who was overthrown as Prime Minister by religious fundamentalists in 1979.

"This revolution belongs to us . . . we have always been against monopolism", he said, in an obvious reference to the *dominant, clergy-led Islamic* Republican Party. "We see monopolism as the enemy of freedom, Islam and independence."

Mr Bazargan and the other three deputies, Mr Ibrahim *Yazdi*, Mr Hashem Sabbaghian and Mr Yadollah Sahabi, are all members of the Iran Liberation Movement which formed *the* core of the first post-revolutionary government. The meeting, the first "opposition" *rally* of its kind for some *time*, reflected their recent moves to reenter active politics after *being put in disgrace* by the seizure of the American embassy.

The rally itself must have disappointed them, however. Only about 20,000 people were in the sports *stadium* where it *was held*, a small number by revolutionary standards. Among them were small groups of people clearly supporting the Islamic fundamentalist line. They held aloft pictures of Ayatollah Beheshti, the Islamic Republican Party leader.

There were many scuffles during the meeting but police, some wearing riot helmets, quickly ejected troublemakers with surprising efficiency.

American plane crashes in sea

Manila, Feb 26.—An American transport aircraft crashed into the South China Sea shortly after take off from the Subic Bay base in the Philippines today, killing 23 of the 24 passengers on board, a United States Navy spokesman said.

The C130 military transport was carying American, Philippines, Australian and New Zealand personnel

Reuter.

No end seen to El Salvador terror

Continued from page 1

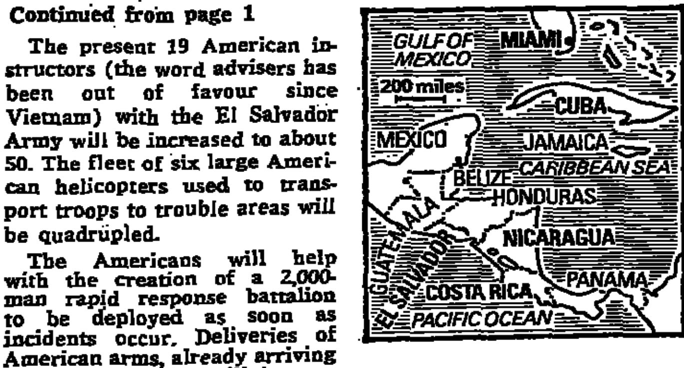
The present 19 American instructors (the word advisers has been out of favour since Vietnam) with the El Salvador Army will be increased to about 50. The fleet of six large American helicopters used to transport troops to trouble areas will be quadrupled.

The Americans will help with the creation of a 2,000-man rapid response battalion to be deployed as soon as incidents occur. Deliveries of American arms, already arriving almost daily here, will be sustained and possibly stepped up.

The irony is that President José Napoleon Duarte, one of the few remaining moderates in a *junta that* has moved sharply to the right in recent months, is lukewarm about this extra military help.

"It is of no use to have the greatest and best army in the world if the people are dying from hunger", he told *The New York Times* last week. He wants economic aid to help ensure *the success of his Government's* reforms.

The charges about communist arms are an important element in the Americans' argument that they must give more military support. It is impossible to confirm their veracity, *although* when the authorities here show captured guerrilla weapons they are mostly antiquated and sometimes homemade.



Some believe that the guerrillas are saving their communist arms for use in a new offensive in the spring. This week the authorities produced *evidence for their* charge that foreign troops have been imported; a Nicaraguan prisoner who said he had been posted to El Salvador by the Sandinistas, the ruling left-wing group in Nicaragua.

It is thought that there are 5,000 "Hardcore" guerrillas *plus some 10,000 supporters.* Against them, the security forces number nearly 16,000; not a large enough differential to wipe out a determined insurgent movement, according to convential military theory.

The Americans probably do have the capability to prevent a guerrilla victory but it is hard to envisage them wiping out the leftists *altogether.*

Meanwhile, life continues with surprising normality in this attractive country, whose violent history has left it with the capability of shrugging off conditions most people would *find intolerable. Traffic circu*lates busily in the tree-lined streets of the capital, snaking through the volcanic hills.

A curfew, rigidly enforced, begins at 9 every night. The people go to their homes, listen for shots and, at daybreak, look to see if the morning has brought any more roadside corpses.

Parliamentary report, page 11
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Police kill five in Gujarat caste riots

Delhi, Feb 26.—*Police* opened fire on rioting crowds killing five people, and arrested nearly 3,000 doctors, students and medical workers today in the western Indian state of Gujarat, the Press Trust of India reported.

At least 25 people have been killed in Gujarat since students began *protests* last month against reservation of places for lower castes in medical colleges.

In Ahmedabad, the state's largest city, some well-known local surgeons were among the 3,000 arrested when they tried to defy a ban on demonstrations, the Press Trust said.

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, deplored the caste *violence in Gujarat* and told parliament it was her Government's moral and constitutional *responsibility* to advance the educational interest of backward and lower castes.

Violence has spread to many areas of Gujarat, and *all* primary and secondary schools in Ahmedabad have been closed for the past *three weeks.*

The five dead were killed in four separate incidents. Police *shot dead* two people when a crowd attacked them after attempting *to set several huts* ablaze in Gojaria village, Mehsana district. Another person was killed in Unjha in the same district when police fired at a violent mob.

A woman died when police fired on a large crowd in Surat district after it attacked a hostel fortribal and police guards. The *angry rioters* also took two rifles from law enforcement officers.

In Sabarkantha district, a boy was killed when police fired into a mob of 1,000 which attacked them.—Reuter, AP.



OVERSEAS

600 faint in the cold as Pope says Mass

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Feb 26

The Pope completed a four-day visit to Japan and flew back to Rome tonight after celebrating an open-air Mass in driving snow in Nagasaki, a stronghold of the Roman Catholic Church where scores of Christian martyrs were tortured and executed during the sixteenth and seventeenth century.

Paying homage to the faith of thousands of Japanese Christians who went underground for nearly three centuries until a ban on the Church was lifted in 1873, the Pope told a crowd of more than 48,000 faithful at the Nagasaki sports stadium that he had come to Japan's bastion of Christianity as a pilgrim.

Celebrating Mass in Japanese, he declared: "I came here to convey the love of Christ to those who kept their faith and hid themselves as Christians for so long".

More than 48,000 Christians, described as the largest gathering of Catholics in the history of the Church in Japan, thronged into the stadium, some of them arriving at 5 am four hours before the pontifical Mass was celebrated in gusting wind and driving snow. More than 600 people who fainted in the cold were taken to medical centres and hospitals during the three-hour ceremony.

Admitting that the Catholic Church had remained relatively weak in Japan, the Pope said that the faith of Japanese Christians was "the sign of a new Jerusalem".

The Pope arrived in Tokyo on Monday on the second leg of his tour of Asia to become the first Pontiff to visit Japan.

During four days of hectic activities, he met Emperor Hirohito, prayed for peace at the spot where an atomic bomb destroyed Hiroshima in 1945 and, according to Christian leaders, enhanced the influence of the country's religious minority community of 400,000 Catholics.

The Japanese press tonight hailed his visit as a triumph



Ambushed Soviet armoured cars and lorries litter a street in the Parwan Valley, north of Kabul.

Brazilian trade unionists given prison terms

From Patrick Knight
Sao Paulo, Feb 26

The president of the recently formed Workers' Party, and former leader of the Sao Bernardo Metal Workers' Union, Senhor Luis Inacio da Silva, "Lula" has been sentenced to three years and six months imprisonment in his absence by a military tribunal in Sao Paulo yesterday for incitement to disobey the law.

Eleven other trade unionists were also sentenced on charges arising out of the six-week strike in the motor industry last year, some for the same period as Senhor da Silva others for shorter terms. Two were acquitted.

In protest at the trial being held before defence lawyers had time to prepare their case, the defendants and their lawyers did not attend the trial, held in a small military courtroom. The case was heard and sentences pronounced in their absence.

The military judges took six hours to reach their decision. The sentenced men gave themselves up to the police late last night, but were expected to be freed pending an appeal to the Supreme Military Court in Brasilia, which is unlikely to be heard for several months.

As well as appealing against the sentences, the defence lawyers have called for an annulment of the trial on various grounds, including the exclusion from the courtroom of foreign journalists, trade unionists and others who had travelled to Sao Paulo for the trial.

If the sentences are upheld, the trade unionists will be prohibited from any political activity for five years after serving their sentences, under the terms of the national security laws.

Recent opinion polls have shown that if Senhor da Silva were to stand on behalf the Workers' Party for the Sao Paulo governorship in 1982, he would have a good chance of being elected.

Communists to surrender soon, Thai officers say

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, Feb 26

Many of the leaders of the communist insurgency in Thailand are expected to surrender soon, according to Thai intelligence officers.

They said at least 50 had secretly come to Bangkok and were now preparing to give themselves up. Mr Thirayouth Boonmee, aged 32, who largely organized the overthrow of the military dictatorship in October, 1973, surrendered on Tuesday.

He joined the Communist Party of Thailand in 1976 after fleeing from a military coup which deposed the democratic government. His wife, a former air hostess, surrendered with him.

They said they had spent the past four and a half years in northern Thailand and northern Laos with hundreds of student leaders, activists and left-wing politicians. However, after Vietnam invaded Kampuchea in 1979 their relations with the Laotian Government became so strained that they were ordered out.

Mr Thirayouth has not pub- are not expected to face criminal charges since the Thai Government announced in 1978 a general amnesty for defectors

Mr Thirayuth has not publicly disclosed his reasons for defecting but he told intelligence officers that he had become convinced that the party's revolutionary strategy was wrong and that its basic principles were undemocratic. Other defectors recently made similar complaints.

There are also ideological conflicts within the party, now split between those in favour of the old links with China which has always provided most of the insurgents' material and moral support, and an opposing *group which prefers exclusive* ties with Hanoi and Moscow.

The Thai authorities believe that the local communists have weakened considerably since Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea, and its incursion last year into Thailand and also since the establishment of friendly relations between the Thai and Chinese Governments.

They view the surrender of student activists as marking the end of an era of extreme radicalism among Thai students.

Lieutenau - General Harn
Lieutenant - General Harn Chief-of-Staff, in a recent optimistic survey of the insurgency, said its leadership was divided and was finding it increasingly difficult to fight a government which was promoting democracy.

Mrs Bhutto arrested after meeting

Lahore, Feb 26.—Pakistani police today detained Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the *former* Prime Minister, and six other leading opposition politicians, opposition sources said.

They were meeting in the home of Mr Mehmud Ali Kasuri, a lawyer, in central Lahore. About 400 supporters of the newly-formed Movement for the Restoration of Democracy fought outside the house with as many police while the meeting took place.

The sources said about 150 demonstrators were taken away but there was no comment here from the Punjab province military government on the arrests.

During the past two days the military have rounded up more than 100 opposition politicians and party workers.

Mrs Bhutto had left her home in Karachi clandestinely on *Tuesday night to attend the* Lahore meeting of the nine-party movement to work out a campaign to end martial law and hold parliamentary elections within three months.

Mrs Bhutto: Working for an end to martial law.

The movement's action com*mittee met in the early hours* today and held a second conference later.

President Zia ul-Haq left Pakistan today as part of a mission trying to end the Gulf war. But he said he hoped to announce the formation of a new mixed military-civilian government within 24 hours of his return.

The establishment of a nominated Federal Advisory Council, performing parliamentary duties, would follow.

The opposition politicians agreed today on their anti-*Government campaign which in*cludes a total boycott and revenge against anyone taking part in the general's government and nominated councils.

Speaking as Islamabad airport before his departure, General Zia said that as far as he knew only 12 people had been detained in the police raids against the politicians. But he also said that the figure could be higher, describing the roundup as "preventive detentions" and not arrests.

Mr Bhutton was overthrown by the military in July, 1977, and was hanged in April, 1979, after being found guilty of conspiring to assassinate a political opponent.—Reuter.

Peking parliamentary body meets to approve policy

From David Bonavia
Peking, Feb 26

This week's meeting of the standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's highest parliamentary organ, is expected to result in some ministerial appointments and to approve the present policy of economic "readjustment".

The session, which opened formally yesterday, is today hearing a report by Mr Yao *Yilan*, the *Minister of State* Planning, on reforms and economy measures aimed at balancing the budget, which is in deficit for the first time.

Though devoid of any real power, the National *People's Congress and its standing com*mittee have a certain moral authority, and some of the members' views or criticisms may carry weight with the Communist Party leadership.

The Posts of Defence Minister and Minister of Petroleum Industry are unoccupied; the latter is thought likely to be filled by the standing committee.

The previous minister was dismissed last year after the party leadership blamed the ministry for greatly inflating estimates of China's accessible oil resources.

Resumption of executions in Malaysia

From Our Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur, Feb 26

Malaysia today resumed executions after an interval of 10 months when three men went to the gallows for offences under the Internal Security Act.

Executions were resumed last year after a period of several years, but were halted after 11 men were executed. The latest brings the total to 14, with another 60 men still in the death cell.

Prison officials said the three Malaysian-Chinese men executed today had their appeals for clemency rejected by the pardons board this week.

All but one of those executed so far were convicted under the Internal Security Act.

Briton wins four Grammy awards

New York, Feb 26.—Christopher Cross, a former driver and valet for the British rock group Fleetwood Mac, has won four "Grammy" awards.

Mr Cross, aged 29, took the awards for song of the year, best single record, best album and newcomer of the year at last night's presentation ceremony here.—Reuter.

Foreign Report is on page 12

Questions are raised about the future of Pakistan's leader

President Zia rules on a political volcano

From Trevor Fishlock
Islamabad, Feb 26

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan is sitting on a political volcano and after recent demonstrations, the *signing* of a "Zia must go" declaration by political groups and the arrest of politicians, questions are being asked about his future as ruler.

It is not surprising that there should be restlessness. General Zia has been in power for three-and-a-half years and is as unpopular as ever. Many people resent living under military dictatorship; democracy, in spite of its bad record in Pakistan, still has appeal.

In Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar people said that military rule was not only irksome but embarrassing: "Even Indians, with all their problems, somehow make democracy work."

Nine groups who defied the ban on political activity and formed a "movement to restore democracy" earlier this month, signed a declaration saying that "*Pakistan and martial law can*not coexist".

They referred to the regional strains in the federation and called for elections in three months, demanding that "Zia ul-Haq quit and martial law be lifted, failing which they will be removed by the irresistible will of the people".

The President responded by having three of the signatories arrested. He said in a speech ten days ago that "Pakistan can ill-afford elections at this juncture. They would give miscreants a chance to cause chaos".

Since then there have been more arrests, and students in several parts of the country have been demonstrating amid varying levels of violence. Some colleges have been closed.

In spite of the tone of the politicians' declaration, and unrest among students, it is hard to detect the *kind of deep* and widespread fury that presages uncontrollable rioting and the collapse of government.

Some of the student protests have been anti-Government in an effort to resist attempts by the regime to control university staff appointments. But some of the trouble had more mundane roots.

The declaration of the political groups was a bold act, but it is easy to overplay its significance. Politics is a discredited business in the eyes of many people in Pakistan and it is difficult, among a congregation of has-beens, to find the people of quality and personality the country would need if it were to return to elected rule.

There are few people capable of creating national leadership *and in any case General Zia* would hardly let them sprout, let alone flourish.

Begum Nusrat Bhutto, who was detained today, is one of the declaration's signatories. She could easily lead her late husband's Pakistan People's Party to election victory, such is the importance of the Bhutto name, but her most important quality is that of being her husband's widow, and she could not hope to lead in the true sense, or to govern.

Her daughter, Benazir, is articulate and courageous but not experienced enough to take command.

The declaration is not evidence of civilians coming together in opposition to the general. Nor does it show that large sections of the people are in open revolt.

Similarly, the student troubles are not pointers to the President's inevitable fall. Even if these events are straws it is difficult to gauge the strength of the wind.

A number of things work to General Zia's advantage. He is a devout Muslim who has led a blameless personal life and his efforts to make Pakistan more truly Islamic have won some approval.

The Russian invasion of Afghanistan has helped him to build more stability at home. Recent harvests have been good, the economy has im*proved and remittances from* Pakistanis living abroad have increased. He has sidestepped trouble by shuffling people around and, in short, has shown *himself to be a survivor.*

His critics say he is in a job which takes him to the limit of his intellectual powers and that he lacks imagination. He has reneged on promises to bring back representative government and has failed to meet the aspirations of a people from whom he is increasingly estranged.

His Islamicization programme, his critics contend, is employed as a distraction. Some people *feel their intelligence* is insulted by the general's censoring of the press and the resulting atrophy of journalism.

While there is a swell of resentment against military rule and the general there are also plenty of people here who say that Pakistan needs firm rule which cannot be provided by politicians.

The general believes he must nip trouble as it buds. His difficulty is that if he is too harsh the reaction could lead to widespread revolt. The political volcano in Pakistan erupts without warning.

Although there is a pessimistic feeling that "we would only get another general" the idea of the democratic alternative, illusory though many feel it to be, *still tantalizes and* appeals. As a lawyer put it: "We are all against Zia but what are we for?".

Crucial phase in campaign to clean up the Mediterranean

By Tony Samstag

One of the most successful international anti-pollution campaigns to date, the Mediterranean action plan organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep), will enter a crucial phase on Monday. Representatives of 18 countries are to meet in Cannes to consider a programme for *the next three years.*

The Mediterranean coastal states earlier this year declared themselves willing to spend \$8m (£5.3m) on a variety of activities. These range from the maintenance of pollution monitoring-and-research centres to fish-farming and alternative energy projects. Unep, however, estimates the costs of the three-year programme will be closer to \$17m.

As the participating countries have not deleted any projects from the scheme, and Unep's policy in any case is progressively to scale down its financial participation in long-term projects, the six-day Cannes meeting could at last resolve a long-standing contradiction between good intentions and mean (or, in several cases, non-existent) budgets.

At a meeting in Barcelona last year, Mr Peter Thacher, deputy director of Unep, had to threaten to curtail the action plan severely before the countries involved paid £3m that they had already pledged.

Three proposed legal agreements, one for each year of the programme, will be under discussion in Cannes: a protocol on specially protected areas and endangered species, which is to be signed later this year; another on offshore exploration and exploitation, due for adoption in 1982; and the creation of a fund to reimburse governments for environmental damage.

Study centres already in existence in Malta (oil pollution), Antibes (planning) and Split, Yugoslavia (fish-farming and energy), must be funded. Proposals are also on the agenda for creating a fourth centre to monitor specially protected areas, and for choosing a city as the overall headquarters for the Mediterranean action plan. Athens, Barcelona *and Monaco have been mooted.*

Another \$11.4m (£7.6m) has been contributed to the plan by a number of other United Nations agencies, chiefly the United Nations Development Programme, for fish-farming, *water resources* and solar and wind energy projects throughout the Mediterranean basin.

Because the main outlet for the Mediterranean is the narrow Straits of Gibraltar, pollution tends to be of longer duration than in more open waters. *It is* estimated that the sea is renewed only every 80 years.

With 100m people living in the countries that border the Mediterranean, into which is discharged 90 per cent of the *sewage from 120 coastal cities* and thousands of tons of chemical pollutants and effluents from rivers, any remedial programme is probably to be measured in decades.

Since the Mediterranean *Action Plan was agreed in 1975* a number of similar schemes have been created under the regional seas programme of Unep. Probably the most advanced of these is the Caribbean action plan, most of whose 26 *participating countries met in* Managua last week to draw up almost 70 specific projects.

SPORT

Cricket

English problems are underlined once again by West Indians

Berbice (Guyana), Feb 26

The West Indians beat England with some ease, by six wickets, in the second of the one-day internationals at Berbice today. Having bowled England out for 137 in 47.2 overs they scored 138 for the loss of four wickets, in 39.3 overs.

However, the West Indians were in early trouble in their reply: In the third over Gordon Greenidge, deceived by Butcher's speed at square leg, was run out for two and two overs later Viv Richards hooked Dilley high to long leg, where Stevenson took the catch.

Haynes and Mattis dug in to turn the match slowly in the West Indians' favour, with Mattis using his feet to punish Emburey.

Mattis was out in bizarre circumstances: bowled round his legs by Emburey, he seemed unwilling to go until the umpires consulted, with Bairstow and Botham gesticulating angrily.

In the England innings, Roland Butcher, like Gatting striving for a test place, made only five before becoming one of three victims of Larry Gomes, the off-spinner, while Geoff Boycott and David Gower managed seven and three respectively.

Graham Gooch was the first to depart, caught behind by David Murray off Andy Roberts for 11, when the total was 16. Eleven runs later Boycott was bowled by Viv Richards and from then on England were struggling.

They slumped to 62 for five before Ian Botham, the captain, and Peter Willey halted the slide temporarily. The *pair* added 46 before the last four wickets fell for 29 runs. Willey was bowled for 21 by Colin Croft, who went on to take three for nine from 6.2 overs, and Botham, trying to hook Roberts, was bowled for 27.

Botham had a warning when he tried to hook Roberts and lobbed the bal loff the splice just short of Garner at mid-on. But he attempted the same shot next bal, mistimed again and was bowled with agonising slowness off his thigh pad.

Emburey drove a catch straight to mid-off after three overs without scoring and England's last flame or resistance was provided by Bairstow and Stevenson, who both drove the quicker bowlers for boundaries.

Then Bairstow was bowled by a delivery from Croft which straightened, and Dilley was yorked.

England had used a combination *of military aircraft and helicopters* to clip three hours off the normal lengthy, winding road journey of 65 miles from Georgetown to Berbice.

They also outpaced the weather which has dogged their tracks during the Caribbean tour so far, and were able to start on time as scattered rain *clouds* gave way to blue skies and sunshine.



Gatting: top-scored when at last he got to crease.

ENGLAND

G. Boycott, b Richards	7
G. A. Gooch, c Murray, b Roberts	11
M. W. Gatting, c Mattis, b Gomes	29
D. I. Gower, b Gomes	3
R. O. Butcher, c Haynes, b Gomes	5
*I. T. Botham, b Roberts	27
P. Willey, b Croft	21
†D. L. Bairstow, b Croft	16
J. E. Emburey, c Croft, b Holding	0
G. B. Stevenson, not out	8
G. R. Dilley, b Croft	3
Extras (b 4, l-b 2, n-b 17)	13
Total (47.2 overs)	137

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—16, 2—27, 3—54, 4—59, 5—62, 6—108, 7—112, 8—119, 9—132.

BOWLING: Roberts, 7—0—17—2; Holding, 7—1—13—1; Richards, 10—0—26—1; Croft, 6.2—1—9—3; Gomes, 10—2—30—3; Garner, 7—2—35—0.

WEST INDIES

C. G. Greenidge, run out	2
D. L. Haynes, c Gooch, b Emburey	48
I. V. A. Richards, c Stevenson, b Dilley	3
E. Mattis, b Emburey	24
H. A. Gomes, not out	22
*C. H. Lloyd, not out	25
Extras (b 4, l-b 8, n-b 2)	14
Total (39.3 overs, 4 wkts)	138

BOWLING: Dilley, 5—0—31—1; Botham, 7—1—34—0; Stevenson, 6—0—21—0; Emburey, 10—1—22—2; Gooch, 2—0—8—0; Willey, 9—0—25—0; Gower, 0.3—0—5—0.

Call for changes in England qualifications

Overseas players who want to play for England will be asked for a declaration of intent before starting their qualifying period if a recommendation by a registration working part yis accepted by the Test and County Cricket Board. The working party, led by Colin Atkinson, the Somerset chairman, want a tightening of the rule for foreign-born players who, like Allan Lamb, the Northamptonshire batsman, see their future in England's Test team.

Lamb, who was born in South Africa, will not be affected, however. He was cleared last week to play for England in 1982, even though *he* decided to opt for *his* new country only last summer after first appearing in county cricket in *1978.*

Mr Atkinson's committee also want a cricketer to be a British citizen before playing for England. The four-year qualification rule *would only apply if his* father or mother had been born in the United Kingdom and had retained British *citizenship*. Otherwise, the 10-year rule should continue to be applied.

The recommendations, which will be considered at the TCCB's meeting on March 10, include a rejection of a compensation scheme for counties whose players move to another club. The committee believe that compensation would lead to "a full-blown transfer system" and that financial compensation would not deter cricketers from moving.

An attempt will be made to play cricket as early as possible after weather interference. In general, standards now accepted as reason*able in John Player League* matches, when play is often allowed in poor weather or ground conditions, should apply to all games. The TCCB want far larger areas to be covered against rain, including 10 yards of a bowler's run-up. A recent umpire's meeting has proposed the use of matting to cover wet areas.

The TCCB intend to take a detailed look at the structure of the cricket programme after next season. If changes are made, there could be a new look for the counties in 1983.

The Test selectors will be the same as for the past two years: Alec Bedser (chairman), Charlie Elliott, Ken Barrington and Brian Close. *Mr Bedser, who will be 63* in July, has been on the panel for a record 20 years and has been chairman for 13 years. There were no other nominations from the counties.



Lamb: his case will not be affected.

Hockey

RAF security blown after Draper's injury

By Sydney Friskin

RAF 1 Civil Service 3

Civil Service recovered their composure to beat the Royal Air Force by a somewhat flattering margin in their annual hockey match at Vine Lane, Uxbridge, yesterday. The score was 1—1 at half time, the RAF having scored first.

Although Civil Service had the better of the second half they were lucky to be on equal terms *at the end of the first*. The RAF, with Bates and Bales combining well in front made several promising raids but hesitation in front of the goal ruined their chances.

The RAF lost Draper early in the second half. He took the full force of a shot by Sibia from a short corner and left the field to be replaced by Leach. His departure upset the balance of the RAF defence and the more experienced Civil Service players, Mayo, Stobbie and Sibia took every advantage of their insecurity.

The match which marked the start of a *training period for the* RAF began well enough for them when they took the lead *in the* 25th minute, Clinton following up to score after Wilson had saved from Bates. If they had established a 3—0 lead by then it would not have flattered them.

Four minutes later Civil Service were back *in* the game. A *long* corner earned by Barrow led to a penalty stroke, Mayo's shot having been stopped on the line by a foot. The award was converted by Sibia. But the RAF should have scored again soon after, both Bales and Bates having been put off their strides *when confronted* by the goalkeeper.

After Draper had retired the gaps in the RAF defence began to show and within 15 minutes of the second half Marson scored twice for Civil Service, making good use of the through pass. A foot infringement denied him his third goal.

ROYAL AIR FORCE: J/Tech J. Marshal; J/Tech M. Dykes, F/Lt I. Draper (sub, Cpl G. Leach), Sgt A. Leaverland, F/Lt P. Sutton, Sgt C. Duerden, F/Lt M. Old, F/O D. Robertson (sub, J/Tech S. Channal), Cpl I. Clinton, Sgt R. Bates, F/Lt S. Bales (captain).

CIVIL SERVICE: M. Wilson; A. Clark, P. Giles, H. Sibia, P. King, C. Basey, P. Ellis, A. Stobbie, D. Marson, A. Mayo (captain), C. Barrow.

Umpires: G. Gardiner (Combined Services) and B. MacDonald (Southern Counties).

Squash rackets

Australian monopoly of British title continues

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

For the fifth time in seven years there will be an all-Australian final in the British women's open championship, sponsored by Pretty Polly, at Hove. It follows that the title will go to Australia for the 20th consecutive year. In Wednesday night's semi-final round Vicki Hoffmann, from Adelaide and the defending champion, beat Rae Sanderson, from Melbourne, by *9—3, 9—1, 6—9, 9—4, and Mar*garet Zachariah, also from Melbourne, beat Lisa Opie, *of* Guernsey, by 9—6, 10—8, 9—6. Both matches lasted 54 minutes.

Miss Zachariah is old enough to be Miss Opie's mother, so her achievement in reaching the final for the first time is extraordinary. She beat the seventh, third and sixth seeds in consecutive matches at the cost of only two games.

This performance by a part-time diagnostic radiographer is some compensation for patriotic disappointment in the defeat of Miss Opie, aged 17, whose talent and *temperament could not make up* for a deficiency in experience. The match was won and lost on the backhand, where Miss Zachariah's versatile skills in burying the ball to a length or playing short with an angle or a drop were often more telling because of her intimidating swing.

In the second game she cracked Miss Opie in the face and was warned that her swing was "occasionally excessive". The simple answer was for Miss Opie to concentrate on the forehand, but this she could not do. Miss Zachariah was slightly better at hitting winners when she needed them, as is evident from the fact that Miss Opie led 6—5 in the first and third games and was in hand at 8—8 in the second.

Miss Zachariah kept the ball low and was consistently severe and tidy, especially down the backhand wall. Tactically, her game was immaculate. Miss Opie was fluently versatile and often deceptive in her shot-making but she tended to hit down when she could least afford to. It was much to her credit that, after taking the blow in the face, she hit two angled winners and saved five game balls. Miss Opie also saved three match points before conceding a penalty stroke.

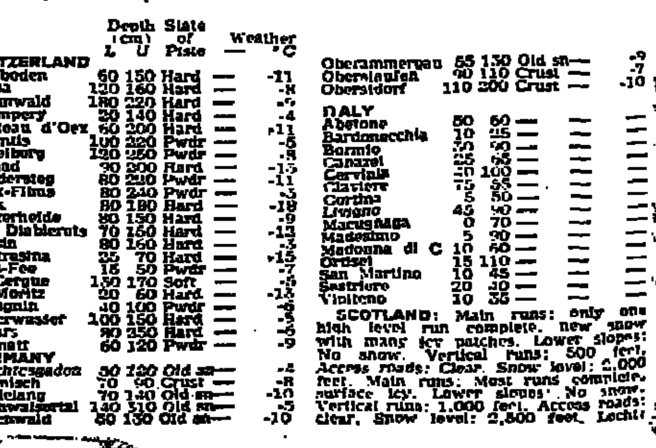
Miss Hoffmann, hitting hard and low to a superb length (most profitably to Miss Anderson's backhand), pinned her opponent to the back of the court for two games. But Miss Hoffmann had set a pace she could not maintain and, in the third game, Miss Anderson seized the chance to sort out her own length and display her technical and tactical craft.

Then Miss Hoffmann bounced back with a modified version of her earlier authority, mixing the long and short games irresistibly well. *In the three games she won,* Miss Hoffmann made a total of only five errors, maintaining fierce pressure without loss of control. Chris Lloyd, even Bjorn Borg, would have been proud of

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	150	350	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-7
Spring snow on south slopes							
Courmayeur	30	200	Fair	Crust	Closed	Fine	0
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Grindelwald	70	180	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	9
Good piste skiing, hard base							
Isola 2000	35	60	Good	Heavy	Fair	Fine	2
All south-facing slopes closed							
La Plagne	170	340	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	0
Good skiing everywhere							
Mürren	105	350	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-3
Lower slopes icy							
St Anton	105	460	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Spring snow on southern slopes							
Tignes	170	270	Fair	Crusty	Good	Fine	-5
Worn patches on upper slopes							

In the above reports supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:



	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	60	150	Hard	—	-11
Arosa	120	160	Hard	—	-8
Braunwald	180	220	Hard	—	-5
Champery	20	140	Hard	—	-4
Chateau d'Oex	60	200	Hard	—	-11
Disentis	100	220	Pwdr	—	-6
Engelberg	120	250	Pwdr	—	-8
Gstaad	90	200	Hard	—	-15
Kandersteg	80	230	Pwdr	—	-11
Laax-Flims	80	240	Pwdr	—	-5
Lenk	80	180	Hard	—	-18
Lenzerheide	80	150	Hard	—	-9
Les Diablerets	70	150	Hard	—	-13
Leysin	80	160	Hard	—	-3
Pontresina	35	70	Hard	—	-15
Saas-Fee	15	50	Pwdr	—	-7
St Cergue	150	170	Soft	—	-5
St Moritz	20	60	Hard	—	-18
Savognin	40	100	Pwdr	—	-6
Unterwasser	100	150	Hard	—	-5
Villars	90	250	Hard	—	-6
Zermatt	60	120	Pwdr	—	-9
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	50	120	Old sn	—	-4
Garmisch	70	90	Crust	—	-8
Hindelang	70	140	Old sn	—	-10
Kleinwalsertal	140	310	Old sn	—	-5
Mittenwald	50	130	Old sn	—	-10
Oberammergau	55	130	Old sn	—	-9
Oberstaufen	90	110	Crust	—	-7
Oberstdorf	110	200	Crust	—	-10
ITALY					
Abetone	50	60	—	—	—
Bardonecchia	10	25	—	—	—
Bormio	30	90	—	—	—
Canazei	25	65	—	—	—
Cervinia	20	100	—	—	—
Claviere	15	55	—	—	—
Cortina	5	50	—	—	—
Livigno	45	90	—	—	—
Macugnaga	0	70	—	—	—
Madesimo	5	90	—	—	—
Madonna di C	10	60	—	—	—
Ortisei	15	110	—	—	—
San Martino	10	45	—	—	—
Sestriere	20	30	—	—	—
Vipiteno	10	35	—	—	—

SCOTLAND: Main runs: only one high level run complete, new snow with many icy patches. Lower slopes: No snow. Vertical runs: 500 feet. Access roads: Clear. Snow level: 2,000 feet. Main runs: Most runs complete, surface icy. Lower slopes: No snow. Vertical runs: 1,000 feet. Access roads: clear. Snow level: 2,500 feet. Lecht:

Athletics

GRE backing for competitions

Guardian Royal Exchange are putting £120,000 into supporting athletics this season. They will be backing the *United Kingdom* championships, the European Cup final for combined events at Birmingham in August, and the British League Cup competitions.

Olympic athletes Linsey Macdonald, Mark Naylor and Angelea Littlewood yesterday became the first recipients of the GRE gold awards after setting national records in last year's United Kingdom championships.

SPORT

Golf

Faldo four-leaf clover that proved to be anything but good luck

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent, Orlando, Florida, Feb 26.

The early lead in the Bay Hill tournament, here in Arnold Palmer country, came from Rod Nuckolls. His 66 was so unexpected that improvisation was necessary in order to install his name at the head of the leader board. He was followed by Hubert Green on 67, a former United States Open champion and therefore a neon light figure, and three players on 68, Bobby Wadkins, Tom Purtzer and Michael Holland.

Britain's principal hope, Nicholas Faldo, was sadly struck down by some kind of virus during the night and played admirably in adversity to get home in 72, one over the demanding par for the 7,089-yard course. Afterwards his temperature was recorded at over 100 and he came away from the doctor armed with an assortment of curatives. At one point during the round he suffered a nose bleed, and, as if that were not enough for one day, his wife was presented with a four-leaf clover beside the 16th tee that proved to be anything but good luck.

Yet Faldo began with some faultless golf that promised another round to add to his impressive collection since he joined the American tour five weeks ago. Starting at the tenth, he was striking the ball sweetly with that classic swing of his and he immeafter time the ball slid past from 7ft after a superb pitch shot. At any one of the next five holes, or indeed all of them, he could have made further advance, but time after time the btll slid past from distances as close as 6ft. One one occasion he claimed that he had missed "by a dimple".

He needed a chip and putt to save his par at the 16th (his seventh) but now the clover exerted its evil influence. From then onwards his game changed completely, whereas before he had been missing birdies by a whisker, he now had to struggle to save par as the flow of blood from his nose increased and the flow of power to his legs subsided.

His driver now made unfair demands on the rest of his game and after a four at the short 17th, he lost three strokes in the course of five holes. He underclubbed to the short 17th (223yds), found two bunkers at the long first and missed the third green after a pushed drive.



Michael King : the best of British with a 71.

The weather was ideal with not a breath of wind and a thin layer of cloud to temper the heat of the sun. If these conditions continue, it is likely that the qualifying figure for the last two rounds may not be much above par and we were therefore concerned about Faldo being able to last the distance, quite apart from whether or not the magic potions have the desired effect. The fear remains, though a long putt on the fifth has improved his prospects.

Of the early British starters, King was the most successful with a round of 71. He too started at the tenth and at one point had got to two under par, but he was bunkered on the fourth and the eighth and found no means of recovery on either occasion. Tony Jacklin finished on 73, defeated by the 10th (his first) which is one of the easiest pars on the course, and driving out of bounds at the 16th. Thus he turned two over and came back in strict par.

Nuckolls has played in five tournaments so far and has a spectacularly undistinguished record, after on one occasion promising much. The suspicion remains that he may be daunted by his present position of eminence, especially as he took five at the ninth, his last hole. His round was made by a run of three successive birdies from the 14th. He holed no outrageous putts, and it is not his golf but his temperament that is in question.

HONG KONG: 67, T. Sieckman (US); 69, Chon Tae Chung (Taiwan), B. Jones (Australia), G. Marsh (Australia); 70, Choo Youn Soo (S Korea), Hsieh Min Nan (Taiwan), Chen Tse Ming (Taiwan), Lu Ho Tsai (Taiwan), S. Tuttle (US); 71, R. Mallicoat (US), Hsu Chi San (Taiwan), S. Makimura (Japan), G. Burrows (US), Tsao Chien Teng (Taiwan), T. Ball (Australia), B. Gallacher (GB), N. Yuhara (Japan), L. Collins (US); 72, A. Pate (US), T. Nanao (Japan), K. Cox (US), Shen Chung Shyan (Taiwan), G. Yokoi (Japan), M. Krantz (US), G. Sorham (Australia), Kim Suk Bong (S Korea), H. Yamada (Japan), T. Takayasu (Japan); 73, P. Townsend (GB), B. Barnes (GB); 77, S. Martin (GB).



Norman masters the course

Melbourne, Feb 26.—Greg Norman, of Australia, with a six-under-par 67, took a two-stroke lead after the opening round of the Australian Masters championship here today. Norman, the world matchplay champion, was followed by compatriot Bob Shaw, with a 69.

Norman produced seven birdies and an eagle over 10 holes to take the lead. His birdie streak started at the par five sixth

LEADING SCORES: (Australians unless stated): 67: G. Norman; 69: B. Shaw; 70: F. Conallin, T. Gale, N. Suzuki (Japan); 71: T. Nakajima (Japan), A. Russell (US), V. Somers; 72: P. Fowler, M. Cahill, R. Mackay, B. Dunk, N. Takasu (Japan):

Brewers save Scottish event

The future of the Scottish professional golf championship was secured for the next three years when Drybrough, the brewers, announced a £100,000 sponsorship of the event yesterday. Since 1978, last-minute deals have saved the championship from falling by the wayside, but the sponsorship announced in Glasgow will boost its importance and prestige.

This year's event will take place at Dalmahoy, near Edinburgh, from October 1 to 4, with a total prize fund of £30,000. Then, in the next two years the prize money will be scaled up to £33,000 and £37,000.

McNulty top of order of merit

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 26

Mark McNulty, who is regarded here as the eventual successor to Gary Player as South Africa's leading golfer, heads the final order of merit for the Sunshine Circuit of 11 tournaments. Though he played in only nine of the matches, he set an earnings record of £27,833.

Hugh Baiocchi finished second in the Sunshine order of merit with £22,444 from 11 matches and Nicky Price, of Zimbabwe, was third with £19,130 from 10. Ian Mosey, of Britain, in is eighth place, havng earned £10,060

Boxing

Jones sure his hand will be right on the night

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

"If Colin can beat us he will become the world welterweight champion", said Cleveland Wason, the manager of Mark Harris, of Guyana, yesterday at a press conference in London. Not so much bad news for Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns, the world champions, as for Colin Jones, of Gorseinon, Wales, so sure is Mr Wason that his man will take the Commonwealth welterweight belt back to Guyana after beating Jones at Wembley on Tuesday.

Neither side has seen the other in action but they have heard of each other's reputations. Harris, who is the No 1 contender for the Guyana title, has lost five of his 15 bouts, none of them under his present management. He has found his form in his past four bouts. Mr Wason gave a poimer of a reply when told that Jones carried a hammer in both hands. He said: "The hammer has got to hit the nail and sometimes the nail can fly back and hit you in the eye."

But the unemployed Jones, who will shortly find work on one of his manager's, Eddie Thomas's, mines, knows all about nailing his man as he did the stylish Kirkland Laing and, more efficiently, Horace McKenzie. A former grave digger, Jones seemed unperturbed by Mr Wason's plans for Harris's future. He aims to let the Guyanese feel the weight of his right hand which he has been using sparingly because of an operation on it last August.

Jones, who admits it has been something of a problem, said he will be punching with it at the right times on Tuesday. "I won't do anything stupid like hitting him on top of his head." He was not taking any chances either yesterday. He was shaking hands with just three fingers.

Jones's right hand could be in big demand, for Mr Thomas who rates him on a par with Ken Buchanan and Howard Winston, has a busy programme planned for him. In 18 months' time he hopes his charge will be boxing for the world title. In the meanwhile, he has to defend his British title against Laing, on April 28 before going for Jorgen Hansen's European title.

Williams ban: Dave Williams, a Belgian-based British lightweight is not likely to be allowed to box in Britain—even though he has been nominated by the EBU to meet Derry's Charlie Nash for the European title. Williams, from Borehamwood, turned professional in Belgium after being asked by the English Amateur Boxing Association to retire on medical grounds. Williams, who is unbeaten in 18 bouts, was refused a licence by the British Boxing Board of Control because his eyes were below the required visual standard.

The British light-middleweight title bout between the holder, Pat Thomas and Herol Graham has been cancelled because Thomas has flu.

Ken Norton meets the unbeaten Gerry Cooney at Madison Square Garden on May 11.

Racing

Silver Buck shines in trial for Cheltenham

By Michael Seely

Silver Buck stamped himself as the likely winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup with an immaculate display of jumping in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton yesterday. Silver Buck, a dual winner of the King George VI steeplechase, may have had little to beat. But there was no denying the quickness, accuracy and boldness of his fencing.

Six to one is now the top price on offer against Michael Dickinson's nine-year-old for the Blue Riband of steeplechasing. However Ladbrokes offer 7—2 with a proviso of a run and these odds should be taken as Silver Buck may be withdrawn if the ground is bottomless at the National Hunt festival.

Michael Dickinson, the trainer, was thrilled with Silver Buck. "That was very good", he said. "The horse will not have another race before Cheltenham but if the clerk of the course allows me I would like to give him a school over hurdles at Wetherby next week."

Tommy Carmody, the winning jockey, deserves full marks for courage. The Irishman aggravated an old injury to his shoulder when Triangle fell behind Money Talk in the Fonthill Handicap. The doctor refused to allow Carmody to ride Aratabo in the Kingwell Pattern Hurdle but passed him fit in time to take the mount on Silver Buck. "It hurt quite a bit", Carmody admitted afterwards.

Heighlin did not jump too well in the early stages of the Kingwell Hurdle, but moved up to challenge in the straight. At the last flight of hurdles Gay George was just leading Jugador and Atataho with Heighlin on their heels.

Heighlin, the favourite, did not take the flight too keenly and in addition had to be switched to launch his attack. In a thrilling finish Jugador beat Gay George by a head with Heighlin, who was finishing fastest of all, only another head behind in third place. Jugador is trained by Derek Kent and was ridden by Peter Haynes.

After this victory it is hard to deny that Stanley Powell's six-year-old must have gone close to winning the abandoned Schweppes Gold Trophy.

David Elsworth, Heighlin's trainer, was not entirely satisfied with this display. "Apart from my horse's rather slovenly jumping he should have been travelling easier in the straight."

But Elsworth may have misread the race, for the pace suddenly quickened at the second hurdle from home. This did not suit Heighlin who needs a strongly run race thoughout. For my money he is still the one that Sea Pigeon has to beat in that final steep uphill climb in the Champion Hurdle.

The other feature of the afternoon was the victory of Ballytop over Aleos in the first division of the Mere Hurdle. Ballytop was a useful horse on the flat last season when he finished second to Water Mill in the March Stakes at Goodwood.

Ian Balding said afterwards: "I plan to run the four year old at Newbury on Saturday week and if he runs well there he could take his chance in the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle."

Nick Gaselee was at Wincanton and said that Prince Charles's new acquisition, Good Prospect, would not be able to have a race before the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown. "Good Prospect is not entered in any events for amateur riders and Prince Charles is not allowed to take on professionals until he has had 15 rides."

At Kempton today the highlight will be the appearance of John Thorne's Grand National candidate, Spartan Missile, in the Corinthian Hunters Chase. Spartan Missile was disqualified from first place after beating Ramblix at Sandown which should be the sharper for his first race of the season. Remigio who ran well when third to Roadhead at Huntingdon is the one that Spartan Missile has to beat.

Other possible winners at Kempton are Applante in the Manor Novices Chase and Golden River who runs in the first division of the Ashford Novices Hurdle. Golden River put up a sound enough performance when runner up to King Ba Ba at Cheltenham to suggest that Jim Joel's five year old may have the measure of today's opposition.

Royal purchase

Nick Gaselee, the Lambourn trainer, confirmed yesterday that the Prince of Wales has bought the steeplechaser Good Prospect, winner of 22 races. Gaselee said that he had entered Good Prospect for the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown on March 13.

Earthstopper makes his mark

By John Karter

Wincanton may have had the monopoly on established stars yesterday, but Lingfield Park gloried in its own little galaxy of glittering promise. Josh Gifford, the Findon trainer, many of whose horses have mystified him by their leaden-footed efforts this season, is suddenly finding that they can hardly put a hoof wrong. Gifford produced the equine find of the afternoon when his seven-year-old Earthstopper won the Surrey Novices' steeplechase from a field well above average for this type of event.

Earthstopper was having his first race over fences, but jumped as effortlessly and competently as if he had been doing it all his life. He made most of the running and had far too much speed for the odds-on favourite, Prayukta, and Sea Captain on the flat.

Gifford, although pleasantly surprised by Earthstopper's victory, was unequivocal in his assessment of the horse's potential: "I've always said he'll win a Cheltenham Gold Cup one day." Earthstopper will run next in a novice event at Sandown Park in March, when he will be ridden by his American owner, the amateur rider George Sloan. Thereafter he will have possibly one more undemanding race and then be put away to be groomed for his role at the top.



Earthstopper (left) goes flat out for victory over Prayukta at Lingfield yesterday.

Gifford's young rider Chris Kinane, at 6ft 2½in our tallest professional jockey, put up the riding performance of the afternoon when he won the Felcourt Handicap steeplechase on Hard Outlook. Kinane kept his horse beautifully balanced to resist what appeared to be a typically irresistible John Francome flourish on the runner-up Silent Burn. Kinane, whose father, Mick, is travelling head lad to the Irish trainer, Edward O'Grady, does not appear to be getting the opportunity his talent merits.

Bob Champion, Gifford's established stable jockey, who rode Earthstopper, had to put a lot more effort into his victory on Intinto in the second division of the Heddon Novices' hurdle. In a blood-stirring climax to a wickedly cold day, three horses, Intinto, Fearless Imp and Sir Gordon, sped across the line together, the photograph showing that they had finished in that order. Intinto has had foot trouble, but this has now cleared up, and there will certainly be worse outsiders than him in Cheltenham's Triumph Hurdle.

STATE OF GOING (official): Kempton: good to firm. Stockton: soft (heavy patches in straight on hurdle course. Tomorrow: Stratford: soft.

Badminton

First signs of fatigue in younger English players

By Richard Streeton

England, who gained three semi-final places in the singles, held a narrow lead with 20 points over Sweden (17) and India (13) as the men's triangular badminton international in Preston yesterday reached its closing stages. India by then were almost certainly out of the running to win the tournament, which carried £5,000 prize money and was sponsored by Crest Hotels.

When the preliminary groups for singles were completed, Andy Goode and Stephen Baddeley joined Kevin Jolly, who had won through on Wednesday evening, in the semi-finals, together with Syed Modi, of India. England also had Michael Tredgett and Jolly through to the doubles final where their opponents were the Swedes, Thomas Kihlstrom and Stefan Karlsson. These two were responsible for keeping alive Sweden's slim chances of taking the £2,500 first prize.

There were the first signs yesterday that England's recent heavy international programme was beginning to tell on their young players. The two 19-year-olds, Baddeley and Nick Yates, both looked tired and jaded in lengthy rallies towards the end of their matches and Goode, who is a year older, was also not as sharp as he can be.

Baddeley allowed Vikram Singh (India) to dictate a far greater share of tactics than had been expected before the Englishman won 15—12, 15—10. Singh came from behind in the second set to level at 10—10 before two hard smashes and a deceptive drop shot brought Baddeley points that gave him the initiative at the end.

Goode beat Karlsson 15—12, 18—13, with the Swede sometimes picking up points when the Englishman's concentration seemed to waver. Goode's spin service was safely handled by Karlsson who went into an 8—2 lead in the second set but was unable to sustain his effort. There were five changes of hand when the setting began but Goodie finished well on top.

Yates began full of confidence against Modi and took the first game 15—4. Later Modi slowed down the pace and Yates started to fade. Long before the finish he was making uncharacteristic errors and he lost the next two sets 15—6, 15—2. Tredgett and Jolly again combined flair and power splendidly to win their doubles.

England have agreed to a Danish request to put their Uber Cup European zone final at Redbridge back one day to April 3 and 4, with play taking place Friday evening and Saturday afternoon.

RESULTS: A. Goode (England) beat S. Sharma (India), 15—10, 15—11; S. Karlsson (Sweden) beat Sharma 15—5, 15—7; S. Baddeley (England) beat S. Johansson (Sweden), 15—3, 15—4; K. Jolly (England) beat C. Nordin (Sweden), 15—10, 15—1; T. Kihlstrom (Sweden) beat N. Yates (England), 6—15, 15—4, 18—17; Johansson beat V. Singh (India, 15—1, 15—12; Jolly beat P. Ganguli (India), 18—4, 15—4; S. Modi (India) beat Kihlstrom, 16—1, 13—15, 15—7; Sharma and U. Pawar (India) beat Goode and Baddeley, 15—11, 15—7; Singh and Ganguli beat Nordin and L. Wergberg (Sweden), 3—15 15—7, 15—7; A. Goode beat S. Karlsson, 15—13, 18—13; C. Nordin beat P. Ganguli, 4—15, 15—8, 15—7; S. Baddeley beat V. Singh, 15—12, 15—10; S. Modi beat N. Yates, 4—15, 15—6, 15—2; T. Kihlstrom and S. Karlsson (Sweden) beat S. Sharma and U. Pawar (India), 15—8, 15—8; K. Jolly and M. Tredgett (England) beat V. Singh and P. Ganguli (India), 15—6, 15—6.

Rugby League

Footballer joins Wigan

By Keith Macklin

In the twinkling of a ball point pen a football professional with Bolton Wanderers yesterday became a Rugby League professional with Wigan. After a successful trial with Wigan A at Warrington, in which he scored a try, 20-year-old Roy Heaney signed professional forms for the Central Park club and was given a release by Bolton.

Heaney, a wing three-quarter, stands 5ft 9in and weighs about 12st. He was formerly on the books of Liverpool as a junior, and then went to Burnden Park to sign for Bolton. However, Wanderers were unable to guarantee him a substantial future in the game of football, and when his interest in Rugby League was made known to them, Wanderers approached Wigan with the suggestion that Heaney was worth a trial.

Alan Fawcett, the Wigan general manager, said: "We are delighted with Heaney's form, and he will probably go straight into the first team for the important Second Division game with Whitehaven at Central Park on Sunday."

The disciplinary committee at Leeds yesterday ruled out four players from Sunday's second round Challenge Cup ties. The most vital decision affected Len Casey, the international Hull Kingston Rovers forward, who was suspended for one game and who misses the home tie with York.

For the record

Swimming

ADELAIDE: National championships: 200 metres medley: P. Moorcroft, 2min 9.1sec (Australian record); Women's 100 metres backstroke: L. Forrest, 1min 4.5sec (Australian record).

Tennis

JAKARTA: Exhibition match: B. Borg (Sweden) beat V. Gerulaitis (US), 6—3, 6—2, 6—3.

MEXICO CITY: Capistrano Cup, first round (US unless stated): B. McKown beat R. Meyer, 3—6, 7—6, 6—1; D. Carter (Australia) beat R. Stockton, 7—5, 7—5; J. Hayes beat M. Davis, 7—6, 3—6, 7—6; J. Alexander (Australia) beat K. Meiler (WG), 3—6, 7—5, 6—3; A. Fillol (Chile) beat R. Case (Australia), 6—4, 6—3; T Gorman beat J. Fillol (Chile), 3—6, 6—2, 6—1.

GENOA: Indoor tournament: Second round: J. Kriek (South Africa) beat W. Fibak (Poland), 6—3, 6—4; I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat A. Panatta, 6—3, 2—6, 6—2.

Basketball

EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-final round pool, eighth series: Nashua Den Bosch (Netherlands) 97, Maccabi Tel Aviv 80.

KORAC CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Dinamo Moscow 104, Carrera Venice 101. (Carrer go through to final 220-209 on agg.)

RONCHETTI CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Spartak Moscow 85, Slavia Prague 75. (Spartak go through to final 180-152 on agg.)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 124, Cleveland Cavaliers 105; Washington Bullets 130, New York Knicks 105; Milwaukee Bucks 126, Los Angeles Lakers 9108; Houston Rockets 101, Indiana Pacers 100; Utah Jazz 132, New Jersey Nets 106; Philadelphia 76-ers 107, San Diego Clippers 95.

Rowing

Jesus caught broadside

A re-row was ordered by the umpire in Division Two of the men's race on the second day of the Oxford University torpids on a freezing Isis yesterday.

The trouble flared up when the Jesus boat was caught by Pembroke and turned broadside

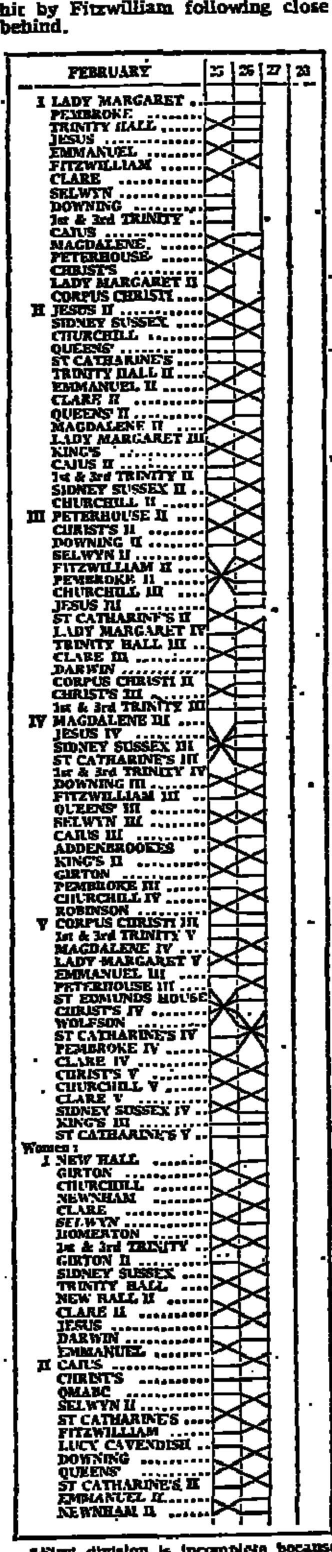
FEBRUARY	25	26	27	28
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UNIVERSITY				
LINCOLN				
NEW COLLEGE				

* In division two, Jesus, Wadham and Hertford re-row today. Insufficient data about first division have caused temporary omissions.

Trinity Hall rally is all in vain

Lady Margaret survived a late rally by Trinity Hall to retain the headship of the Cambridge Lents yesterday. Lady Margaret were nearly three lengths up in the Reach but Trinity Hall spurted from the railway bridge and steadily closed to within one length before the gap widened again.

Clare caught Jesus at Ditton and knocked off Jesus' rudder. Jesus tried to clear the river, but were out of control and were hit by Fitzwilliam following close behind.



*First division is incomplete because of re-rows being held this morning.

Kempton Park programme

1.30 ASHFORD HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,514: 2m)

3 0104 *Mr Whiskers (D), R. Head, 7-11-12 .. —
5 000/ Beggar's Bridge, F. Walwyn, 6-11-5 Mooney
6 0 Britannicus, F. Winter, 6-11-5 .. Francome
7 Ceinture, Mrs S. Carter, 7-11-5 .... May
8 004 Charlie Muddle, S. Mellor, 6-11-5 .. Jobar
9 40-f4 Christmas Visit, J. S. Wright, 7-11-5 Scudamore
10 4200 Citadel Roc, J. Bradley, 6-11-5 G. Davies 7
11 0 Day After, S. Mellor, 5-11-5 ...... Blacker
15 4202 Golden River, R. Turnell, 5-11-5 .. Turnell
16 0fbf Johnny Tarquin, R. Ledger, 8-11-5 Mrs Ledger 4
19 -0000 Oxford Lane, P. Bailey, 5-11-5 .. A. Webber
20 p0 Pearls Display, K. Cunningham-Brown, 5-11-5 —
24 0 Skateboard, R. Carter, 5-11-5 Mr P. Webber
25 0f0-0 Springfieldcracker, D. Barons, 7-11-5 Cargeeg 7
26 Steer Point, W. Fisher, 5-11-5 .... Linley
27 p00 Tartan Heath, M. Scudamore, 6-11-5 Waite 4
29 0002 Davidgalaxy Affair (D), F. Yardley 4-10-12 Morris 4
30 001f Mossat, B. Palling, 4-10-12 ....
31 3100 Royal Casino (D), L. Wardle, 4-10-12 Smith Eccles
34 0 Charles Street, Miss A. Sinclair, 4-10-5 Rowell
38 0000 Grima, I. Dudgeon, 4-10-5 ...... Barton
39 00 Handy Dancer, A. Moore, 4-10-5 Moore 4
42 4 Masterplan, Mrs W. Sykes, 4-10-5 Morshead
44 0000 Polwick, M. Ryan, 4-10-5 ...... McCourt

3-1 Golden River, 100-30 Beggar's Bridge, 5-1 Charlie Muddle, 13-2 Britannicus, 8-1 Day After, 10-1 Masterplan, 12-1 Royal Casino, 16-1 others.

2.0 MANOR CHASE (Novices: £1,625: 2m)

201 1313 Broomy Bank (D), J. Edwards, 6-11-10 Blacker
202 p01f Famous Footsteps, Miss A. Sinclair 6-11-10 Coyle 4
204 1f12 *Prayukta (CD), F. Winter, 6-11-10 .. —
205 4201 Rockbarton, A. Moore, 6-11-10 .... Moore 4
206 u413 Spin Again (D), D. Morley, 6-11-10 B. R. Davies
207 0200- Anitacat, A. Wales, 6-11-5 .... A. Webber
208 102f Applante, R. Armytage, 6-11-5 ....
210 0ppu Cornelius Kelly, A. Moore, 6-11-5 .. Suthern
211 *0004 Dobsboy, K. Cunningham-Brown, 6-11-5 ....
213 f00u Flying Drum, Mrs W. Sykes, 6-11-5 Morshead
214 0b33 Indian Rulette, P. M. Taylor, 6-11-5 Keightley 7
217 4002 Washington Heights, F. Walwyn, 6-11-5 W. Smith
218 02f Big Jake, R. Turnell, 5-10-10 .... Waite 4
219 344-0 Northend, H. Collingridge, 5-10-10 Hutchinson 4
220 00ff Tichyitino, N. Mitchell, 5-10-10 .. Gebbie 4

3-1 Washington Heights, 7-2 Broomy Bank, 9-2 Famous Footsteps, 11-2 Applante, 8-1 Spin Again, 10-1 Big Jake, 12-1 Rockbarton, 16-1 others.

2.30 LITTLETON HURDLE (Handicap: 4-y-o: novices: £1,009: 2½m)

301 0011 Our Bara Boy, M. Ryan, 12-0 .... McCourt
303 0200 Columbium, D. Beeson, 11-1 .. Goldstein 4
309 2302 Come on Taffy, J. Wardle, 10-11 Smith Eccles
313 0233 Black Rod, F. Winter, 10-6 ...... Francome
315 b107 Marcliss King, D. Nicholson, 10-5 Scudamore
317 1100 Hasty Dawn, P. Bailey, 10-5 .. Mr P. Webber
318 0033 Headstone, N. Graham, 10-5 ...... Burgoyne 4
319 332 Trampler, M. Masson, 10-3 .... Turnell
320 0023 Firm Foundations (B), M. Hinchliffe 10-0 Keightley 7
323 4043 Low Quay, G. Pritchard-Gordon, 10-0 Cox 4
325 0000 Critical Times, D. Nicholson, 10-0 Carvill 4
326 4004 Ashbury Lad, Mrs J. Pitman, 10-0 .... Smart
327 0100 Worslead, M. Tompkins, 10-1 ...... Linley
328 440 Winabil, F. Winter, 10-0 .... de Haan 4
329 200 Prince of Steel (B), P. Cundell, 10-0 Stronge 7
330 p300 Flash Fred, N. Mitchell, 10-0 .... Hyett
331 0032 No Illusion, D. Wintle, 10-0 ...... Morshead
332 0404 St Alezan, F. Rimell, 10-0 ....
334 0030 Tajarama, T. Hallett, 10-0 .... West 7

3-1 Come on Taffy, 4-1 Our Bara Boy, 5-1 Black Rod, 13-2 Trampler, 8-1 Low Quay, 9-1 Winabil, 10-1 Columbium, 12-1 Hasty Dawn, 16-1 others.

3.0 EMBLEM CHASE (Handicap: £2,054: 2m)

401 /011- Bideford (C,D), S. Mellor, 8-11-13 Blacker
405 204p Galileo (D), R. Armytage, 6-11-3 H. Davies
409 133/ Line Shooter (D), F. Walwyn, 9-10-11 Mooney
410 2s-f1 Prince Kumar VI (C.D), F. Yardley 9-10-10 Morris 4
411 0-422 Marshal Night, M. Ryan, 6-10-9 .. McCourt
413 4040 Birshill, J. Bridger, 9-10-5 ...... Gracey 4
414 uu42 Springbow (D), R. Turnell, 8-10-2 Turnell
415 000p Merry Meadow, A. Moore, 7-10-0 Moore 4

11-4 Bideford, 100-30 Prince Kumar VI, 4-1 Line Shooter, 6-1 Galileo, 7-1 Marshal Night, 10-1 Springbow, 14-1 others.

3.30 CORINTHIAN CHASE (Hunters: £1,084: 3m)

501 0u0-p Coolishall (CD), B. Munro-Wilson 12-12-6 Mr Munro-Wilson 7
502 1-312 Dancing Brig (D), T. Clay, 10-12-6 Mr Clay 7
503 u1p/ Flexability (D), J. Bosley, 9-12-6 Mr Bosley 7
505 2f4-3 Remigio (CD), F. Winter, 13-12-6 Mr Wilson
506 p0r-f Romany Car, K. Clark, 12-12-6 .. Mr Clark 7
507 224-0 Royal Air (D), M. Fear, 10-12-6 Mr Fear 7
508 4f0-0 Saintly Sorrel, A. White, 7-12-6 Mr Fanshawe 7
510 /21-d Spartan Missile (CD), M. Thorne, 9-12-6 Mr Thorne
512 41-42 Sydney Quin, W. Kelly, 9-12-6 Miss Mumford
513 11f-1 Village Mark, J. Cann, 7-12-6 .. Mr Cann
519 Falacy, R. Shaw, 8-12-0 .... Mr P. Webber
522 442/ Rugaro, R. Thorpe, 7-12-0 Mr Adamson 7

4-9 Spartan Missile, 100-30 Remigio, 8-1 Village Mark, 12-1 Dancing Brig, 16-1 others.

4.0 ASHFORD HURDLE (Div II: novices: £1,494: 2m)

603 1400 Birwood Lad (D), Mrs J. Pitman, 5-11-12 Smart
604 3402 Herodes (D), D. Kent, 7-11-12 ....
605 2213 High Old Time (D), S. Mellor, 6-11-12 Blacker
606 42 Acapulco Gold, A. Pitt, 6-11-5 .... Cox 4
609 00-f4 Applalo, R. Armytage, 6-11-5 .. H. Davies
610 3300 Baudelaire, Mrs J. Pitman, 7-11-5 ....
611 0 Benminer, W. Fisher, 5-11-5 .... Linley
612 p Bill's Oliver, R. Ledger, 5-11-5 Mrs Ledger 4
613 Borderline, J. Jenkins, 5-11-5 .... Reilly
615 00-p *Della Digger, G. Lewis, 5-11-5 ......
616 Gale Protector, D. Jackson, 6-11-5 A. Webber
617 *Game Sir, Lady Herries, 6-11-5 ....
618 0 Good Bird, B. Palling, 8-11-5 Christopher 7
622 03 Malvan, R. Turnell, 5-11-5 .... Waite 4
626 My Pet Inca, N. Lee-Judson, 7-11-5 Hughes 7
627 000 *Oliver Hardy, Mrs B. Waring, 6-11-5 Keightley 7
628 0-400 Padibus, D. Barons, 5-11-5 .... Leach
631 2-42 Ro's Owen, R. Head, 6-11-5 ...... Francome
633 0 Silver Tongue, E. Courage, 5-11-5 Morshead
638 0403 Another Venture, R. Atkins, 4-10-5 Atkins
639 0 Black Earl, R. Hannon, 4-10-5 ...... Hallett
641 20u0 Firm Conviction, T. Hallett, 4-10-5 .. West 7
643 000 Lucan (B), M. Masson, 4-10-5 de Haan 4
645 Plain Jim, M. Ryan, 4-10-5 ...... Scudamore

6-4 High Old Time, 100-30 Herodes, 4-1 Ro's Owen, 5-1 Acapulco Gold, 7-1 Malvan, 12-1 Birwood Lad, 16-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Kempton Park selections

By Michael Seely

1.30 Golden River. 2.0 Applante. 2.30 Low Quay. 3.0 Springbow. 3.30 Spartan Missile. 4.0 Ro's Owen.

Wincanton results

1.45 (1.46) FONTHILL CHASE (Handicap: £1,357: 2m)

MONEY TALKS, ch g by Quisling—Fair Parade (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) 8-10-9 R. Linley (2-1) 1
Reidis ...... P. Barton (7-4 fav) 2
Current Chance .. P. Hobbs (14-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 22p; places, 10p, 17p. Dual F: 44p. CSF: 54p. L. Kennard at Taunton. 4l. Philwin (50-1) 4th. 6 ran.

2.15 (2.18) FAIRYLAND CHASE (Handicap: £1,465: 2m 5f)

LUSTFUL LADY, b m by Rugantino—Joyful Tears (Mrs E. Mitchell) 9-10-0 car 10-1 Mr N. Mitchell (25-1) 1
Hot Tomato .. P. Blacker (11-2) 2
Cassies Boy .. M. Williams (33-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £2.43; places, 36p, 30p, £1.33. Dual F: £3.41. CSF: £14.06. N. Mitchell at Sherbourne. 4l, 2l. Tower Bridge (100-30 fav), Tauru (6-1) 4th. 12 ran.

2.45 (2.49) KINGWELL PATTERN HURDLE (£4,327: 2m)

JUGADOR, br g by Jaula—Janette (S. Powell) 6-11-7 P. Haynes (15-2) 1
Gay George .... W. Smith (6-1) 2
Heighlin ...... S. Jober (4-5 fav) 3

TOTE: Win, 57p; places, 15p, 21p, 19p. Dual F: £1. CSF: £5.08. D. Kent at Chichester. hd, hd. Atataho (40-1) 4th. 11 ran.

3.15 (3.20) JIM FORD CHALLENGE CUP CHASE (£2,601: 3m 1f)

SILVER BUCK, br g by Silver Cloud—Choice Archless (Mrs C. Feather) 9-11-11 T. Carmody (1-4 fav) 1
Artifice ...... R. Hoare (13-2) 2
Spider Man .. James Guest (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 14p; places, 12p, 34p. Dual F: 20p. CSF: 23p. M. Dickinson at Harewood. 3l, 8l. Master Smudge (13-2) 4th. 7 ran. NR: Tristram Shandy and Prestbury.

3.45 (3.53) MERE HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o maidens: £414: 2m)

BALLYTOP, b g by High Top—Ballydown (Mrs J. McDougald) 10-10 ...... B. Reilly (5-1) 1
Aleos ...... Mr E. Whetlam (9-2) 2
York Cottage .... R. Linley (3-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 58p; places, 26p, 17p, 30p. Dual F: £1.34. CSF: £3.04. I. Balding at Kingsclere. 2½l, 10l. Second Event (15-8 fav), avens Tower (16-1) 4th. 23 ran.

4.15 (4.22) MERE HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o maidens: £414: 2m)

BARON BLAKENEY, gr c by Blakeney—Teleflora (Wheatley Leisure Ltd) 10-10 ...... P. Leach (7-1) 1
Mountain Monarch W. Smith (5-1) 2
Broken Flight .... A. Webber (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.35; places, 46p, 19p, 65p. Dual F: £9.26. CSF: £7.50. M. Pipe at Wellington. 8l, 4l. Clarendon (7-3 fav), St William (11-2) 4th. 22 ran. NR: Pledge.

PLACEPOT: £129.

Lingfield Park

2.0 (2.02) HEDDON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £872: abt 2m)

NORTH WEST, ch h, by Welsh Pageant—Heather Grove (F. Hill), 6-10-10 R. Goldstein (33-1) 1
Herodes ...... J. Lovejoy (3-1) 2
Yamlet ...... R. Rowell (12-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £6.62; places, £1.02, 15p, 33p. Dual F: £29.70. CSF: £12.68. M. Messon at Lewes. 12l, 4l. 12l. Mossat 11-4 fav, Mr Whiskers (11-2) 4th. 15 ran. NR: Eva Anne, Killeen.

2.30 (2.32) SURREY CHASE (Novices: £5,194: abt 3m)

EARTHSTOPPER, ch g, by Fair Turn—Countess Charmere (G. Sloan), 7-11-5 R. Champion (8-1) 1
Prayukta J. Francome (8-11 fav) 2
SeaCaptain .... P. Scudamore (9-3) 3

TOTE: Win, 91p; places, 28p, 13p, 21p. Dual F: 51p. CSF: £1.37. J. Gifford at Findon. 2l, 4l. Bold Argument (11-2) 4th; 7 ran. NR: Prince Abyss.

3.0 WORTH WOOD HURDLE (4-y-o novice selling: £414: abt 2m)

PLATTS PIECE, b f, by Super Slip—Crisp Star (N. James), 10-0 S. Keightley (15-8 fav) 1
King's Piccolo A. Coogan (13-2) 2
Celia's Halo .... S. Smith Eccles (14-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 35p; places, 17p, 38p, 32p. Dual F: £2.16. CSF: £1.62. P. M. Taylor at Upper Lambourne. 12l, 10l. 12l. Miss Gaylord (10-1) 4th. 14 ran.

3.30 (3.34) FELCOURT CHASE (Handicap: £1,791: abt 3m)

HARD OUTLOOK, ch g, by Harwell—Princess Prospect (Lady Wates) 10-10-13 C. Kinane (4-1) 1
Silent Burn .. J. Francome (4-1) 2
Princes Risk R. G. Hughes (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 47p; places, 16p 39p, 19p. Dual F: £1.96. CSF: £2.14. A. Wates at Dorking. Nk, 10l. St. Slippery Dick 11-4 fav, Menequila (12-1) 4th. 14 ran.

4.0 (4.06) EDENBRIDGE HURDLE (Handicap: £922: abt 2m)

KENO HILL, b g, by Yukon Eric—Rock Me (Mrs G. Davison) 6-10-3 .. M. Harrington (10-1) 1
Shakymouse .... C. Mann (14-1) 2
Solway ...... M. Perrett (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 99p; places, 19p, 62p, 49p. Dual F: £3.56. CSF: £14.41. A. R. Davison at Caterham. 3l, 10l. 3l. Edith Rose 7-4 fav, Fairmon (20-1) 4th. 15 ran.

4.30 (4.38) HEDDON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £811: abt 2m)

INTINTO, gr c, by Connaught—Cranberry Sauce (Countryclass) 4-11-1 R. Champion (3-1 jt fav) 1
Fearless Imp R. Strong (11-12) 2
Sir Gordon P. Scudamore (3-1 jt fav) 3

TOTE: Win, 46p; places, 16p, 29p, 10p. Dual F: 81p. CSF: £3.27. J. Gifford at Findon. Sh hd, 2l. Onite Lucky (20-1) 4th. 16 ran.

TOTE DOUBLE: Earthstopper, Platts Piece. TREBLE: Platts Place, Hard Outlook, Keno Hill.

JACKPOT: Not won. Pool of £1,627 carried forward to Kempton Park today. Placepot: £53.35.

Stockton programme

1.45 WAINSTONES HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £345: 2m 176yd)

2 -410p Incas Away, Mrs C. Lloyd-Jones, 5-11-5 Lamb
3 0010 Rabriga, T. Cuthbert, 6-11-5 ...... Charlton
5 p-000 Brother Kempinski, J. Spearing, 6-10-9 Webb
6 f2f2 Bustedaway, G. Richards, 5-10-9 .. Doughty
9 000p- Changing Image, R. Haigh, 10-10-9 .. Kell 7
11 -2-0 Comerce, R. Barr, 6-10-9 .... Mr Kinsella
12 3303 Emerald Emperor, M. Naughton, 7-10-9 Grant
13 0-0 Firdale Warden, W. Wharton, 5-10-9 S. J. O'Neill
14 00bp Gadabout, E. Owen jun, 7-10-9 .. Earnshaw
16 00- Giraldos Fancy, W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-9 T. G. Davies 7
18 00-00 Kirkby Lad, W. Tinning, 7-10-9 .. C. Tinkler
24 u300 Lunar Wind, J. Parkes, 6-10-9 .. McCaskill 7
25 00 Meggies Dene, W. Barrett, 5-10-9 .. Johnson 7
26 2000 Menalist, R. Dods, 5-10-9 .... Stringer 7
26 0/ Merry Minstrel, D. McCain, 7-10-9 Beardwood 7
33 000 Nice Value, R. Hollinshead, 7-10-9 .. Astbury
34 0002 Sandicliffe, V. Thompson, 6-10-9 Mr Thompson 7
36 p0 Satin Sun, B. Cambidge, 6-10-9 .... Barry
38 0-0f Spartan Sparrow, F. Musgrave, 8-10-9 .. Tuck
39 000 Swift Embrace, R. Robinson, 5-10-9 Pimlott
41 0-034 Villa Mill, C. Crossley, 6-10-9 .... Crank

11-4 Bustedaway, 7-2 Emerald Emperor, 9-2 Incas Away, 6-1 Rabriga, 8-1 Brother Kempinski, 10-1 Comerce, Sandicliffe, 12-1 Villa Mill, 20-1 others.

2.15 YARM CHASE (Div I: Novices: £836: 2½m 66yd)

1 0044 *Gold Invader, A. Scott, 8-11-11 .. —
3 fu21 Lucky Rew (C), W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-11 Mr McIntyre 4
4 u130 Percipient, G. Richards, 7-11-11 ...... Parry
6 0021 Rupertino (C), E. Owen jun, 6-11-11 Earnshaw
12 0/00 Chartermede, J. Spearing, 8-11-4 .... Dickin
15 0-u03 Feathered Flight, E. Robson, 10-11-4 Isherwood 7
19 230p King Tud, N. Chamberlain, 7-11-4 .. Charlton
21 f3 Mister Moonshine, K. Oliver, 7-11-4 O'Connell 4
24 -f0f2 Palace Royal, R. Tate, 8-11-4 ...... Mr Tate
26 402f Prairie Green, W. Wharton, 7-11-4 Mr Bennion
31 02b0 Spring Chancellor, W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-4 .... Lamb
33 44/p Take My Hand, N. Bycroft, 7-11-4 ...... Tuck

7-4 Lucky Rew, 5-2 Rupertino, 9-2 Percipient, 7-1 Mister Moonshine, 12-1 Feathered Flight, 20-1 others.

2.45 FACEY ROMFORD CHASE (Handicap: £1,096: 3m 31yd)

1 3024 Current Gold, G. Richards, 10-12-4 Mr Todhunter 7
2 1fp1u Bryan Boru, R. Hollinshead, 10-12-1 Mr Garden
6 21-00 Three to One, K. Oliver, 10-11-6 .. Mr Dun
7 2010 Golden Jest (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-5 .... Lamb
10 1u04 Scrunch, R. Brewis, 8-11-2 .... Pimlott
11 023u Hello Louis, Mrs G. Revoley, 11-11-0 Mr McIntyre 4
14 3002 Phone Boy, R. Robinson, 11-10-8 .... Whyte
18 040f Nasir, C. Crossley, 10-10-0 .... Crank
20 0101 Silver Meant (B), G. Lockerbie, 10-10-0 Hawkins

5-2 Golden Jest, 100-30 Three to One, 9-2 Scrunch, 6-1 Bryan Boru, 8-1 Hello Louis, 10-1 Phone Boy, 12-1 Current Gold, 25-1 others.

3.15 LUCY GLITTERS HURDLE (Handicap: £708: 3m)

3 111 Happy Voyage, M. Dickinson, 6-12-0 Pimlott
4 /032- Saffron Cake (B), J. Wilson, 12-11-9 .. Grant
8 1423 Winning Brief, M. Naughton, 6-10-11 Bradley 7
9 3012 Go on Joe, J. Richardson, 7-10-10 .. Oldham 4
10 -pf0p French Art, N. Bycroft, 9-10-9 .... Tuck
11 3103 His Reverence, Denys Smith, 5-10-9 Stringer 7
12 0001 Tall Order, L. Foster, 7-10-9 .... J. Goulding
14 3124 Hopton, J. Harris, 6-10-5 .... Harris 7
16 1000 Who's Free, T. Cuthbert, 6-10-1 .. Charlton
17 2340 Cambro Boy, R. Hobson, 5-10-0 .... Shaw 7
25 0000 Chocolate Biscuit, T. Fairhurst, 4-10-0 Fairhurst
26 r000- Uncle Vanya, I. Jordon, 11-10-0 McGilligan 7
27 2003 Wedded Bliss, D. Chapman, 5-10-0 Mr Walford

4-6 Happy Voyage, 4-1 Tall Order, 6-1 Winning Brief, 8-1 Hopton, 12-1 Go on Joe, 20-1 others.

3.45 CLEVELAND CHASE (Hunters: £480: 2½m 66yd)

4 2/1-0 Whiggie Geo, A. Sanderson, 9-12-3 Mr Tutty 7
5 -1022 Cinchid, T. Gillam, 10-12-0 .. Mr Lamerque 7
6 s4p-0 Come on Steve, J. Williamson, 10-12-0 Mr Hudson 7
7 043-p Europleasure, R. Tate, 13-12-0 .... Mr Tate 7
8 14e4- Lennoxlove, L. Maitland, 8-12-0 ....
10 0/00- Brief Bay, Mrs L. Fraser, 11-11-7 Mr Walton
13 0/2-3 Dryburn, W. Walton, 10-11-7 Mrs Hamilton 7
14 0000- Hot Sovereign, Miss C. Caroe, 6-11-7 Miss Caroe 7
16 020u- Kirkstyle, Mrs J. Benson, 11-11-7 Mr Kinsella 7
17 3/32- Master Melody, W. Hackett, 10-11-7 Mr Fowler 4
19 224-0 New Formula, Mrs F. Gray, 11-11-7 Miss Gray 7
22 0 Saville, J. Wade, 7-11-7 .... Mr Wade 7
23 0 Sling Again, J. Wade, 12-11-7 Miss Williamson 7
24 /u00- Wilmore, H. Walby, 10-11-7 .. Miss Oliver 7

11-5 Whiggie Geo, 3-1 Cinchid, 9-2 Dryburn, 6-1 Master Melody, 12-1 Europleasure, New Formula, 20-1 others.

4.15 YARM CHASE (Div II: Novices: £1,030: 2½m 66yd)

2 -1fb2 Go Wimpy (C), M. Dickinson, 6-11-11 Pimlott
8 ufu0 Automation, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-4 Lamb
10 f4 Ballyo, E. Owen jun, 6-11-4 .... Earnshaw
11 14-f0 Box of Tricks, B. Norton, 6-11-4 ...... Tuck
13 40 Dark Chanel, Mrs C. Lloyd-Jones, 9-11-4 Barry
18 1000 Imp (B), R. Robinson, 6-11-4 ...... Bradley
21 u343 Milan Major, G. Lockerbie, 9-11-4 .. Hawkins
25 30pf Patient Knight, R. Cross, 8-11-4 ...... Whyte
28 004-0 Rag Robin (B), R. Tate, 8-11-4 ....
30 p0up Somerson, Mrs J. Cundall, 8-11-4 .. Charlton
34 0-000 Tree Warbler, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-4 Mr McIntyre 4

4-7 Go Wimpy, 4-1 Milan Major, 6-1 Ballyo, 10-1 Box of Tricks, 12-1 Dark Chanel, 20-1 others.

4.45 WAINSTONES HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £834: 2m 176yd)

1 1040 Tiaball, B Tennie, 6-11-5 .... Pimlott
3 003-0 Biv, Miss A. Hill-Wood, 6-10-9 S. J. O'Neill
7 -0000 Dras Lass (B), J. Parkes, 5-10-9 Mr McCaskill 7
8 p First Class Mail, Mrs S. Chesmore, 5-10-9 Charlton
10 2000 Gold Shoveler, K. Stone, 6-10-9 .. C. Tinkler
11 Happy to Play, W. Storey, 5-10-9 .... Storey 7
12 3000 Hope of Oak, J. Charlton, 6-10-9 Mr Kinsella
13 0- Just Sauce, R. Cambidge, 6-10-9 .... Barry
14 0 Karamazov, Mrs C. Lloyd-Jones, 5-10-9 Lamb
15 000f Lucky Apple, C. Pinkham, 5-10-9 .. Mr Walford
19 b00 Norfiede, R. Johnson, 5-10-9 .... Wilkinson 4
20 00- Orangeman, V. Thompson, 8-10-9 Mr Walton
24 0 Rich Discovery, E. Besoline, 5-10-9 G. W. Gray 7
31 0- Welsh Orbit, C. Barron, 5-10-9 .... Tuck

9-4 Lucky Apple, 8-1 Biv, 9-2 Tiaball, 6-1 Karamazov, 8-1 Just Sauce, 10-1 Gold Shoveler, 12-1 Hope of Oak, 20-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Stockton selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Brother Kempinski. 2.15 Prairie Green. 2.45 Hello Louis. 3.15 Tall Order. 3.45 Whiggie Geo. 4.15 Go Wimpy. 4.45 Karamazov.

SPORT

Football





Booth (left) didn't appear, Bailey did : result was the same.

Suspended Booth and Bailey miss cup clash

John Bailey, the Everton full-back and Tommy Booth, the Manchester City defender, collected suspensions yesterday which will keep them out of the FA Cup quarter final round tie between the clubs at Goodison Park on March 7. They were banned for two games each for accumulating 20 disciplinary points.

Gordon Lee, the Everton manager, supported Bailey at the FA commission hearing in Birmingham, and reported that he has already fined Bailey because of his disciplinary record. Mr Lee said : "He had a fair hearing. It is very unfortunate that it comes at such a time, but he has got to accept it and live with it.

"He is a very important player to us but will learn from what has happened. We had a bad record at Everton, but have tried to improve it."

Booth ,who did not request a personal hearing, was dropped for Tuesday's game at Arsenal, allowing the return of Tommy Caton, because John Bond, the City manager, expected him to collected a ban. Bailey will also miss tomorrow's first division game at Crystal Palace and Booth is ineligible for the game at Stoke City the same day.

Halifax Town, of the fourth division, will be without three players because of suspension tomorrow, but the club's record was defended by George Kirby, the manager. Vernon Allatt, a striker, and Malcolm Goodman, a defender, were each banned for two matches. Allatt had 30 points and Goodman 20, and both miss the home game against Crewe Alexandra, as will Tommy O'Neill, who last week was suspended for three games.

Defender David Evans is due to face a disciplinary hearing next week. Mr Kirby said : "We are not proud of our record, but I have not got a dirty side. When we got rid of yellow cards everyone thought the number of bookings would fall away, but it is as though referees are trying to prove a point."

John Blackley, the Preston North End Scottish international defender, Fred Robinson of Huddersfield Town, and Mike Trusson, of Sheffield United, were all suspended for two games from tomorrow for totalling 20 points. Trusson pleaded in vain that he was booked for another player's offence in the February 14 match at Swindon.

Steve Williams, Southampton's England under-21 midfield player, was banned for two games by a commission in London. He had also collected 20 points and will miss tomorrow's game at Liverpool and the re-arranged home game against Manchester United on March 7, brought forward from May 2 because of planned ground improvements.

Today's fixtures

Kick offs 7.30

FOURTH DIVISION: Southend v Doncaster; Stockport v Scunthorpe.

Wallace apologizes to fans for losing Cruyff

The Leicester manager, Jock Wallace, apologized yesterday to the hundreds of supporters who bought tickets in the hope of seeing Johan Cruyff in action for the club tomorrow.

Mr Wallace hoped to sign Cruyff in time for Leicester's home match against Nottingham Forest, but learned on Wednesday night that the Dutch world cup star does not want to play for the struggling Midlands club. "It's hard luck on the fans, but I really believed he was coming", Wallace said. "I did not try to deceive anyone."

It is understood Leicester were prepared to pay Cruyff £5,000 a game until the end of the season, but he is now expected to take up an offer of 50 per cent of the gate at Levante, a Spanish second division side.

No financial details were released, AP report from Amsterdam. Cruyff will join his new club today and play his first match on Sunday. "The change-over to Spain will be less of a problem to me than a move to England", Cruyff said. "The Spanish climate is more pleasant than that in England but I have also chosen Spain for private reasons."

Martin Edwards, Manchester United's chairman, admitted yesterday that Dave Sexton's position as club manager would come under discussion at the end of the season. "It is not a sensation ; United are no different to any other club. If we had won the league we wouldn't even consider the possibility of discussing the manager's position", Mr Edwards said. "Like any other club in the country we would be failing in our duty if we did not review the position. More than anything else we owe it to our supporters."

Jordan is set to return for United against his former club, Leeds United, tomorrow. He has missed the last two games with a swollen knee.

Injuries have forced Tottenham Hotspur to postpone tomorrow's reserve match against Leicester at White Hart Lane and created serious problems for the first team's visit to Sunderland. Hoddle, who has influenza and did not train yesterday, has become the 16th player on the list of casualties, although McAllister is the only regular first team man definitely out.

Injuries threaten Derby County's promotion effort. Biley may miss the rest of the season after an operation on damaged ankle ligaments, and four other senior players are struggling to recover from injuries.

Alan West, of Luton Town, is a regular churchgoer, but he has decided to miss a service so that he can play in a second division match at Orient on Sunday.

"I gave it a lot of thought and some members of my church might not agree but football is my job," he said. "I will make myself available to play on Sunday—but it might be a different matter if football were to be played every Sunday."

West, a 28-year-old midfield player and his wife Cathy are members of a pentecostal church at Luton and usually attend morning and evening service on Sunday. An 11.30 kick off at Orient means that this weekend West, a former England under-23 international, will be able to attend only the later service.

Luton have decided not to play any home Sunday games this season but will experiment with two or three next season. Their manager, David Pleat, said : "We will respect the views of any player who has religious objections to playing on Sundays."

Kaye's sacking by Scunthorpe is a sign of the times

Scunthorpe United became the latest club to show how the economic recession is hitting football yesterday when they sacked their coach John Kaye and announced that they will not run a reserve team next season.

Kaye, the former West Bromwich Albion defender and Hull City manager, has been made redundant purely because of "economic necessity" said the Scunthorpe chairman Jack Empson, and not because the fourth division club were dissatisfied with his work.

Scunthorpe are losing up to £2,000 a week, and the decision to dispense with a reserve team almost certainly means the club will prune its playing staff, which currently includes 20 professionals and five apprentices. Mr Empson insisted, however, that there was no danger of the club folding. "Plent of clubs are worse off than us" he said. The club's manager Ron Ashman said he was sorry to lose Kaye's services but understood the reasons. Kaye, whose playing career began at Scunthorpe, rejoined them as coach three years ago.

Bristol Rovers, bottom of the second division and with only two league wins, have offered their player manager Terry Cooper a three-year contract. But they have also told him he must go on selling players. The club's chairman Graham Holmes said: "At least twoo r three more transfers must be made if we are to reduce our wage bill and overdraft."

Mr Cooper's present contract expires at the end of the season. He said: "I'll probably sign the new contract if only to put down the 'knockers' who say I will soon be on my way."

Scotland need six more points Stein predicts

Jock Stein, the Scotland manager, predicted yesterday that his side will need six more points to qualify for the World Cup in Spain next year. The 1—0 victory over Israel in Tel Aviv on Wednesday was Scotland's second successive away win in group six of the qualifying competition and their next three matches are all at home. Scotland, with five points out of six, are now joint leaders

Mr Stein said : "I must admit I would have settled for five points out of six before the qualifying began. But now we have worked our way into this good position we must aim to press home our advantage. Our next match, against Northern Ireland at Hampden Park, is absolutely crucial. If we can put four points between the Irish and ourselves the pressure should really begin to tell on them". After facing Northern Ireland on March 25, Scotland entertain Israel on April 28 and Sweden on September 9.

Gemmill, Scotland's captain, damaged ankle ligaments against Israel and could miss the next international.

Wednesday's results

UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL
England (1) 1 Rep of Ireland (0) 0
Shaw 5,882

SECOND DIVISION
Cardiff (1) 1 Newcastle (0) 0
Kitchen 4,235

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Frickley 0, Altrincham 3.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Wellingborough 1, Barry Town 2. Southern division: Addlestone and Weybridge 1, Canterbury 0; Folkestone 0, Crawley 0; Waterlooville 2, Salisbury 1.

RUGBY UNION: Cambridge University 8, Anti-Assassins 27; Newport 7, Pontypridd 12; Plymouth Albion 12, Exeter University 16.

HOCKEY: UAU Championship: Semi-final round replay: Loughborough 2, Exeter 2 (Loughborough won on penalty strokes after extra time). London League: Guildford 5, London Univ 0.

THE ARTS

A determined sense of national identity

The Long Good Friday (X)
Ritz

The Mirror Crack'd (A)
ABC Shaftesbury Av.

Private Benjamin (AA)
Warner West End

Resurrection (AA)
selected release



Bob Hoskins and Helen Mirren in *The Long Good Friday*.

Every year the Berlin Film Festival presents a retrospective tribute to a major film-maker. This year for the first time it honoured not an actor or a director, but a producer, the late Sir Michael Balcon. Even the British, who might be supposed to know most of the fifty films shown pretty well, were astonished by the discovery of just how rich the British cinema was in the thirties and forties. There were the great Hitchcock thrillers the Jessie Matthews musicals made by Victor Saville, the early Ealing comedies, and films of quite forgotten quality such as Robert Stevenson's *Tudor Rose*, Berthold Viertel's *Little Friend* or *Proud Valley*, directed by that most tragic wartime loss to British films, Pen Tennyson.

What made the British cinema so good then was craftsmanship and a sure and determined sense of a national identity—always enhanced in the case of these particular films by Balcon's own very superior taste and judgment. The films have a sort of confidence that they can sell themselves without recourse to vast budgets, or running after "international" (that is, American) appeal.

Above all, practically all of them—idiot comedies as well as high dramas—boast expertly crafted screenplays of the kind that provides a blueprint for the production and backbone of the finished product. They are strong on character, and draw upon the rich source of British actors (which still exists, even if most of it is now deployed in television). The emphasis on British themes gives the films the sinew of authenticity.

Last week in Berlin it all seemed like something from the past. This week we have *The Long Good Friday* to prove triumphantly that it can still be done, and that there is still life and strength in the British commercial cinema.

By today's standards *The Long Good Friday* was made comparatively cheaply—the budget was just over a million pounds. Whatever the magnates and accountants may believe, however, the public is generally fairly unaware whether a film costs dear or cheap. For that matter many a multi-million picture (cf *Raise the Titanic* or *Can't Stop the Music* looks a great deal shabbier than this one.

It is talent rather than money that is invested here. As producer, Barry Henson has to his credit such television features as Jack Gold's *The Naked Civil Servant* and Stephen Frears's *Bloody Kids*. The writer—the stage and television dramatist Barry Keeffe—has developed an exemplary screenplay, at once complex and tightly made, and always motivated by its characters. The director, John MacKenzie, who has done good work on television but nothing better in the cinema than *Unman, Wittering and Zigo* and *Made*, shows how much more he can do only given a worthwhile script to work on.

On the surface the film is made in the mould of the traditional gangster story. Bob Hoskins's hoodlum, Harold, is very much the East End equivalent of Cagney's *Public Enemy*, or Robinson's *Little Caesar*. He has made it from Whitechapel to running his own "corporation" and owning his own yacht and classy mistress (Helen Mirren). He has the police and the local authorities in his pocket, is planning a major London property development, and forging links with the international Mafia.

Everything, indeed, is coming up roses for Harold until the Easter weekend when enemies unknown embark on a series of lethal outrages against his organization. As the story accelerates to a crazy vortex of violence, Harold discovers he has unwittingly crossed enemies whose connexions, expertise and dedication to violence outclass his own.

As well as the merits of the writing, the suspense, the sure use of Engish idiom, character and settings, the film has the confidence to exploit British actors, who are in no way outclassed by the guest appearance of Eddie Constantine as the Mafia big man. Helen Mirren's talents are enlarged by her portrait of Harold's Rodean-talking moll. Bob Hoskins is a star presence as well as a good actor. His Harold—stocky, balding, unsmiling—is a chilling creation in his unpredictable shifts from maudlin sentiment to bestial ferocity.

The Long Good Friday is really everything that *The Mirror Crack'd*, produced by Lord Brabourne and Richard Goodwin and directed by Guy Green, is not. It is an attempt to reproduce the formula of *Murder on the Orient Express* and *Death on the Nile* ; but here the strategy no longer works. Agatha Christie's Miss Marples stories with their confined village setting, do not suit the all-star cameo treatment in the same way as the Hercule Poiret series with their caravans of eccentrics.

These Miss Marple mysteries are, indeed, just the sort of thing they did so well in Balcon's cinema, with small budgets, country locations around and about Ealing and a wealth of British character actors. Even in the days when Margaret Rutherford became Miss Marple, the films still had the charm of modesty.

Now, though, Angela Lansbury is Miss Marple and the Americans have landed. The life of the village is altogether eclipsed by the presence of Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson, Tony Curtis, Kim Novak and (a mere child among the rest) Geraldine Chaplin—all remaining obstinately themselves rather than characters in the rural melodrama. Miss Taylor alone, playing a star making a shaky comeback, is irresistible. With all her awful gaudiness, she can still attract affection like the naughtiest child in the class.

Not that it matters much in the long run ; for in the way of this kind of production, while all the money was being squandered, no one seems to have had time to bother with the script, which is a poorly written mess of rotten red herrings and dragged-in plot points.

Private Benjamin, directed by Howard Zeiff, has done good business in the United States, which only proves how uncritical audiences are when it comes to comedy. Again the trouble is the script, which lurges from Jewish domestic comedy (Goldie Hawn's marriage, with the groom dropping dead in wedding-night coitus) to old-hat army farce (Goldie as the hopeless recruit who makes it to top of the class) and then to xenophobic fun (Goldie in Belgium escapes marriage with a man who confirms all you ever suspected about Foreigners).

It is an unsavoury mixture of juvenile knockabout and rather sour sexuality (the satyric bridegroom ; the complicated jealousies of the comic lesbian army officer), in which Goldie Hawn, who is also executive producer, puts rather a lot of strain on her pop-eyed, rag-doll charm.

Resurrection, directed by Daniel Petrie from a script by Lewis John Carlino, is a watchable oddity, a novel twist on the still booming theme of demonic possession. This time, however, the heroine (Ellen Burstyn), following a near-fatal accident in which her husband is killed, becomes possessed of apparently divine powers of healing. Whether it is good or evil, though, people still cannot tolerate the unexplainable ; and the heroine is hounded off into the wilderness. For all the divine intimations, the idea is developed with no more sophistication than any other occult thriller. Ellen Burstyn plays it with strenuous conviction ; and the bewildered Kansas community (notably Eva Le Gallienne as her grandmother and Sam Shepard as her lover) is sharply sketched.

David Robinson

Book review

Fly Navy

By Brian Johnson

(*David & Charles, £12.95*)

On March 31, 1918 the Royal Navy had one of the largest air forces in the world. On April 1 it was merged with the Royal Flying Corps and did not come under the control of the Admiralty until just before the outbreak of the war, 20 years later. During this times the Americans and the Japanese built carriers and aircraft specifically for them, so that the big gun capital ship was effectively out of date when war was declared. Fortunately for us the German designs for carrier construction were never realized, and we were able to provide cover for convoys unmolested by enemy aircraft ; but if Bismarck had had a carrier with her ? The author does not explain the Germans' omission ; it can hardly have been that they were observing the Versailles treaty of limitation on warship tonnage.

In retrospect it seems incredible that so many admirals (on both sides of the Atlantic) believed the battleship to be proof against air attack—despite General Mitchell's demonstration in 1924, when aircraft and weapons were a great deal more primitive than in 1939. I suspect that in the Royal Navy at least it may have been tied up with the fact that flying was not for gentlemen, and the Navy should have nothing to do with it if possible — I remember tales of wartime carrier wardrooms divided by a rope—Air branch one side, Ship's Officers the other. Whatever the reason, the Fleet Air Arm at the beginning of the war was not a force calculated to strike fear into the enemy breast—that it was effective says much for the crews ; the Bismarck and the Italian fleet at Taranto were both scuppered by men flying biplanes.

The author covers aircraft and ships in action from the sinking of Konigsberg in East Africa in 1915 to the rocketing of ox-carts in Korea in 1953, often the only target available. The major battles of the Pacific war are described at length, but the lack of a map and the plethora of squadron numbers make them hard to follow—though it would appear that the admirals involved at the time had much the same trouble ; perhaps they too had to cope with misprints and misidentification of aircraft—not many, but enough to irritate : that and the title are my only complaints of an interesting, if specialized, book.

Christopher Parsons

Richard II
Young Vic

Irving Wardle

To the Elizabethans *Richard II* was the most notoriously political of all Shakespeare's plays, and Robin Lefevre's production is single-mindedly intent on proving it as politically pertinent as ever.

Nickolas Grace gave the game away in his interview with Sheridan Morley last Monday, by pinpointing the date as 1917. We are in a court of imperially uniformed royalty and frock-coated elder statesmen ; and instead of the accustomed blaze of heraldic pageantry, Grant Hicks's design comes over as a Plantagenet Elsinore—a raked promontory framing an open pit leading up to a corridor and balcony mined with dark recesses and hiding places. True to its conspiratorial approach, the show introduces the buzz of discontent before revealing the royal culprit.

The first figures we see are Gaunt and Gloucester's widow, discussing the deaths of Edward's sons, until their *sotto voce* conference is broken off by the arrival of Mr Grace's Richard—a casually supercilious figure in braces, who seems blissfully unaware of the poison that is brewing up around him.

He is matched against the Bollingbroke of Stuart Wilson in a hare and tortoise race the outcome of which is evident from the start. Like other Richards, he makes a clear division between the divine body of the king and the private man—the difference being that he regards kingship as a comprehensive insurance policy. No matter what he does, he will be safe.

The textual Richard is often guilty of lapses of decorum. But with Mr Grace these are not gaffes; he commits them deliberately with the intention to insult. After resonant official pronouncements he slips back into character with a facetious "what more remains ?" He takes the hands of the outraged York tenderly in his, and then briskly announces his decision to grab the Lancaster property. "I am in health" he tells the dying Gaunt, sticking his tongue out to prove it. Even without all the land-grabbing, he would be a tempting target.

Mr Wilson confronts this preening adversary through steel-rimmed glasses, never relaxing his stonily intent gaze, and never responding to any offer of human contact. Even when Gaunt embraces him before his exile, he stands rigidly with his arms hanging by his sides. From the first moment, he emerges as a political opportunist with his eyes fixed on the main objective ; and his return, in taciturn control of the Lancastrian *apparatchiki*, has unmistakable echoes of the Finland Station.

The production is a triumphant occasion for Mr Wilson. It is less so for Mr Grace, whose performance is limited by the simple factor that too much of the character has to be left out. Political masterpiece it may be, but the arias, the narcissism, the play of fantasy are also integral to the pattern, and there is no room for them here. His performance has a coherent line of growth, saving its big monarchical utterance for the moment on the castle walls when Richard has lost all his power, and achieving self-knowledge in the Pomfret dungeon where, brilliantly, he mistakes the visiting groom for a murderer. But much of the reading is too fast and too casual for this text.

The production offers a few bizarre novelties, such as a girl second gardener, and the transformation of the Queen's attendant into a tame clergyman.

Much as I love the music of Robert Eddison's delivery, it is a bit much to see his Gaunt instantly reincarnated as the Bishop of Carlisle, fooling nobody in a big beard.

Lynda Bellingham, Nickolas Grace — Photograph by Donald Cooper

Stages
BBC 2 (tomorrow)

Ned Chaillet

Australia, America and the continent of Europe have seen Peter Brook's latest theatrical creation *The Conference of the Birds*, but it will not be seen on the British stage, which was once Brook's natural home. His Paris-based company, The Centre for International Theatre Creations, has disbanded for two years and their adaptation of the Persian epic has disbanded with them. Tomorrow night, however, there are glimpses of its powerful imagery in a film being shown on the *Arena* programme on BBC 2. It is a canny piece of programming, made possible by some imaginative Australian film-making.

There are qualities to Brook's work now which are extra-theatrical, which have as much to do with a search for human potential, even spirituality, as with entertainment. He and his company try never to forget the delights possible in the theatre, and the work shown is evidence of their command of the comical. What becomes clear in the film of the company's season in Australia, where they performed in a quarry outside Adelaide, is that the evident simplicity of this storytelling is edging towards a profound sort of communication.

Not only *The Conference of the Birds* appears in the programme, beautifully photographed by an Australian collective known as Macau Lights. There are segments of the Centre's production of Jarry's *Ubu* plays, which appeared briefly at the Young Vic while Brook's more traditional *Anthony and Cleopatra* was being presented by the Royal Shakespeare Company. More significantly, there are sections from *The Ik*, the production which explored the tragedy of an African society's enforced decline and where the company first turned to the bare narrative of their present style.

The film-makers, who are anonymous by choice, also step back from narration in the programme to allow Brook and his actors to state the case for their adventures in theatres. There is a more eloquent statement of their work in the photography which records the visit of Australian Aborigines to the performances and the direct power of the plays is best reflected in the faces of the Aboriginal audience. *Stages*, as the film is called, is halfway to being a manifesto for the sort of theatre Brook has discovered since leaving Britain. The moments shown of the play Britain will not see are mere suggestions of the performance's controlled beauty, with its elements of Balinese dance, but it is the closest we will get.

BBCSO/Gielen
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Noël Goodwin

Whoever had the idea of prefacing Beethoven's ninth symphony on Wednesday with the tersely compelling testament of *A Survivor from Warsaw*, had a remarkable ear for associations of musical thought and emotional feeling. Presumably, it emanated from the conductor, Michael Gielen, who has been an eloquent advocate of Schoenberg here before (his account of *Die Gluckliche Hand* at its British premiere still lingers in the memory), and was again on this occasion.

Although Schoenberg's memorial to the victims of the holocaust is encapsulated in precisely 99 bars of music, it has the dimensions of tragedy, and the fervour of protest. A narrator in a pitched *Sprechstimme* tells the anecdote of one who survived, in a mixture of English and German that found Roland Hermann as clear and pointed in one language as in the other.

The text tells of a group of concentration camp victims who responded to an order to shout out their numbers by spontaneously turning this into the Jewish hymn, "Sh'ma Yisroel". The male chorus (the excellent BBC Singers) acquires an unusual force of anger from Schoenberg's setting, a 12-note melody derived from his music earlier in the work and extended through a web of orchestral polyphony. What the conductor then did here was to continue with the symphony after the smallest possible break, and allow the feeling generated by Schoenberg to colour the savage opening paragraphs of Beethoven.

So bold an intention sounded at first to be immensely exciting, but the performance later became over-reliant on a hard driven momentum throughout this and the succeeding movements. Much of the musical detail was obscured at the pace it was taken.

Had there been some change of musical character at this point, the finale's great call to universal brotherhood would have come as more of a musical culmination than cheerful rejoicing for its own sake. It was nevertheless jubilantly sung with firm balance of voices by the BBC Symphony Chorus, and with a strong solo quartet in Margaret Price, Alfred Hodgson, Kenneth Riegel and Roland Hermann.

The Choice
Soho Poly

Ned Chaillet

Playwrights should benefit from the ideas behind the Writers' Theatre Collective: they should, but the benefits are not obvious in the production of Terry Oliver's short play at the Soho Poly. According to a policy statement from the collective, the playwright has taken a large responsibility for the total performance, choosing his director, actors and designer. It might have made more of a difference if he had written another play.

The adjective for *The Choice* is "worthy". I suppose, although that would be in the context of leftish self-criticism rather than the broader realm of social concern. It is a play that shares the same areas recently explored by many woman playwrights, and it attempts to consider equally the opinions and ideas of a man and a woman locked in a relationship.

Mr Oliver puts the emotional weight of the play almost entirely on the woman's side by providing her with a history of a traumatic abortion and desire to marry the man who has fathered the child she did have. The man professes love and refuses wedlock because he believes marriage is a kind of slavery. Despite behaving badly he manages to impregnate her again and the woman unconvincingly throws the responsibility of abortion or marriage and birth entirely on to the man.

Playwrights have always been well served at the Soho Poly, under the protective direction of Verity Bargate, so it is ironic that the writer's collective should achieve a less responsive production and design than usual, from Philip Keir and Mick Bearwish respectively.

ECO/Asensio
Queen Elizabeth Hall

William Mann

Concertgoers spend so much of their time browsing amid the monumental masterpieces of music that it may seem like playing truant to shun Beethoven's ninth symphony in favour of a programme whose items set out simply to charm and beguile the ear, as did the English Chamber Orchestra's on Wednesday on South Bank.

The softer option, if so you regard it, was compulsive if, like me, you adore Hugo Wolf's music including the *Italian Serenade*, and regret that it is so seldom played in the orchestral version. This genial foretaste of an imaginary Italy, which Wolf was to chart later in the *Italian Songbook*, was first formulated as a single movement for string quartet, and as such is quite often performed. Later, when his mind was sick, he planned to enlarge it to several movements, but achieved no more than this transcription, which Max Reger had to edit for publication.

Wolf's bigger intentions are implicit in this version for small orchestra, the compact string texture allowed to expand, like Japanese waterflowers, to embrace woodwind and brass; several solos only here achieved the instrumental colour that we ought to have divined in them from the first, and the string setting is about-faced by making the viola (Quintin Ballardie in this sympathetic account) the leader, rather than the first violin—the change of tone-colour enhances the human individuality of the music.

The lilt and caprice and physical energy of the serenade, much more than a love song beneath a sweetheart's window, were affectionately captured by the Spanish guest-conductor, Enrique Garcia Asensio, who had already won attention with his sensitive appreciative treatment of Fauré's *Masques et Bergamasques*. It is another lovable rarity, the Pastorale a mature example of the composer's gentle, elliptical lyricism, the overture typical of the Gallic fascination with displacement of metre or rhythmic phraseology.

As a Spaniard, Asensio properly included an offering from home, Falla's score for his ballet *El amor brujo*. He emphasized the urgent harshness of its diction rather than any voluptuousness, recalling he chamber-musical origins of the work. Sarah Walker brought out the firm, dark chest register and incisive delivery required (what a versatile artist she is).

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

PARLIAMENT, February 26, 1981

Reflation would undermine progress in cutting inflation

House of Commons

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, refused to undertake a significant reflation of the economy.

To do so (he said) would undermine the substantial progress made in reducing inflation and achieve little or no lasting stimulus to output.

He was replying to Mr Michael Meacher (Oldham, West Lab) who asked: If the Chancellor refuses to reflate, what other measures in the Government's economic strategy can ever produce sufficient demand to stop unemployment rising to three and ultimately four million?

Sir Geoffrey Howe (East Surrey, C): One of the most important reasons for expecting growth to resume and unemployment to fall in due course is the fall in inflation.

If money supply and inflation is falling that is likely to lead to a substantial increase in activity in the economy while continued maintenance in moderation in pay settlements will reduce unit labour costs.

Earlier Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab) had asked: In view of the appalling unemployment figures announced on Tuesday, will the Chancellor take steps to reflate the economy in order to provide more jobs and regenerate industry?

His monetarist policies have turned vast areas of this country into de-industrialized deserts.

In the past 23 months he has caused more destruction to British industry than Chancellor Hitler managed in the whole of the Second World War.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The impact on unemployment in this country has been far more serious as a result of pay increases, pay settlements and rising unit labour costs than the result of anything else.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C): If the Chancellor is looking for further cuts in public expenditure, will he follow the example of the Reagan Government and look hard at further cuts in overseas aid? (Some Conservative shouts of "No".)

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I shall study the example of the Reagan administration in their proposals and their outcome.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): As we read every day what the Budget is going to contain, is there any need for a Budget speech? (Laughter.)

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I would not wish to deprive Mr Jay of the exhilarating experience of listening to that address. (Laughter.)

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) asked what representations the Chancellor had received from small businesses that interest rates should be reduced, that the Government should introduce an energy package, and that the value of the pound was deleterious to the potential for exports.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I have received a number of representations *for and on behalf of small businesses*. As I demonstrated in the last Budget we attach considerable importance to the part that can be played by them.

Mr Nicholas Lyell (Hemel Hempstead, C): Will the Chancellor consider the importance, in the Budget, of drawing a distinction between capital and current spending?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I take his point. It is desirable to see expansion in capital expenditure in investment. That is something to which most of our policies are directed.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): Can we take it that the necessary monies to be given to BSC are the beginning at least of a U-turn and a partial reflation of the economy?

The whole of North Sea oil money, at least, is having to be paid out on unemployment benefit, with £5,000 per person being necessary to keep someone nonproductive.

When will he reflate the economy to bring people back to work and produce so that we can compete on world markets?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Money for the sustenance of the nationalized *industries, including DSC*, is money raised from taxation or borrowing which cames from the rest of the economy and cannot be regarded as a net gain.

An attempt by reflation to generate growth and jobs is more likely to fail than to succeed and to cause higher borrowing, higher interest rates and higher unemployment.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C): If it is unwise to have significant reflation of the economy now, can the Chancellor say if there is any prospect of more constructive intervention by the Government? (Labour cheers.)

Mr Peter Shore, Chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and *Poplar*, Lab): With 90 per cent of manufacturing industry working well below capacity, does the Chancellor accept that the economy is deflated? If he does, does he think that the *Government* has a *part* to *play* to reflate the economy?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The Government's primary role remains that of economic stability, including the conquest of inflation. Mr Shore was kind enough earlier to pay tribute to our success in that direction. I am glad to have his support in that.

Mr James Hamilton (Bothwell, Lab): He put up consumer prices by his Budget. His hope that deflation would bring jobs has proved a disaster with unemployment approaching 2,500,000. Would he consider reflating to give people the jobs to which they are entitled?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Mr Hamilton complains about the level of consumer prices. He will do well to remember that the outturn of *prices inflation* is 1 per cent better than was forecast in the Budget.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): Does the fact that ICI cut its dividend by more than half today mean that the Budget forecast is on target or not? (Laughter.)

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Mr Stokes is a robust defender of non-interven*tionist government. He is the last* person to expect me or any other Chancellor to predict the outcome of any company results. We are all concerned to see any company do less well than we had hoped.

In the last year, disposable personal income rose by 18 per cent but company disposable income fell by 20 per cent. Many of the difficulties faced by companies were a consequence of high pay settlements.

Mr Foot wants PM aware of concern about El Salvador

It would be deeply offensive if arms supplies and American intervention were to go into El Salvador on the side of tyranny and reaction, Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab) said during question time.

Mr Foot asked Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, answering for the Prime Minister: Will he comment on what he regard as a matter of extreme urgency for this country and for the world at large? Will he send an urgent message to the Prime Minister, whether she is *in the White House or not*, expressing to her the rising concern in this country and elsewhere in Europe about the supply of arms to El Salvador.

There are suggestions that huge extra supplies of military equipment are being prepared to be sent by the United States to El Salvador.

Would he take into account that many of us in this country and throughout Europe would regard it as deeply offensive if such supplies and American intervention were to go into El Salvador on the side of tyranny and reaction? (Loud Labour cheers.)

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C): The Prime Minister is fully aware of the concern in this country and in this House. She *went to America very well aware* of these facts. They are going to be raised in her discussions with the President.

I think Mr Foot would be the first to appreciate that for me to make any comment on what he has said about a tragic and difficult situation at a time of such delicacy would be most unwise. I do not intend to do so.

Mr Foot: Surely he can undertake to convey to the Prime Minister the feeling in this House that has been expressed? Most of us are concerned about freedom if some MPs on the Government side are not.

Will the British Government be supporting the proposal from the West German Government for forms of intervention or mediation *which might assist in alleviating* this tragedy, and tell us something about it?

Mr Whitelaw: I will make certain that the Prime Minister appreciates the concern in this House and what Mr Foot has said. I would be departing from my previous position if I were to respond subsequently.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): Whatever may be the shortcomings of the government of El Salvador, the Cuban government has been guilty of aggression in Angola, Ethiopia and Nicaragua and now, on fairly good evidence, in Salvador.

In any communication to the Prime Minister, will he explain that the balance of opinion in the House is in favour of supporting the Americans in this particular matter? (Labour protests.)

Mr Whitelaw: Those points are wellknown to the Prime Minister and will be part of the discussions she will be having with the President.

Interest rates must be maintained at a responsible level

'he Government would keep the 'vel of interest rates under view, against the background of her developments in the onomy, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the ancellor of the Exchequer, said hen urged to reduce the level of terest rates.

r Geoffrey Howe (East Surrey, said he understood and shared e widespread desire, particularly industry, to see interest rates me down. Since last summer nimum lending rate had been duced by 3 per cent.

Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield, st, Lab): When he thinks of erest rates, has the experiment two years with monetarism en worth while, with its terrible ts in lost jobs, industrial dece and all the other horrors we ve seen?

When he makes the sharp cut in erest rates in the next few days, I he *also admit the total bank*ptcy of the policies of the last years?

Geoffrey Howe: I do not underd the reference to the experiot with monetarism the last years—(Labour protests)—en monetary policy was a key t of the policies of the last our Government.

Stanley Newens (Harlow, Lab): view of the heavy burden of erest repayments on industry the crippling difficulties imed upon home buyers and the *ects of the level of sterling, it is* disgrace that he should have od by and done nothing while tish industry has been increasly destroyed and damaged and re and more hardship forced on the British people as a direct ult of his policies.

Geoffrey Howe: He recites a mber of the many reasons why ver *interest rates* are desirable. re are other reasons to be set igside them why interest rates e to be maintained at a respone level. The rate has been cut 3 per cent since last summer.

Michael Latham (Melton, C): he confirm that MLR is irly in excess of the underlying of inflation? If he takes ount of all the underlying *nomic factors, it must point to* early and significant reduction MLR. (Loud Labour cheers.)

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is true that measured against the substantial fall in inflation in recent months, interest rates have become more positive. That is one of the factors we have to bear in mind in considering future changes in MLR. As inflation has fallen, we have cut MLR by 3 per cent since last summer.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab): MLR is still at 14 per cent and if the rate of inflation is somewhere around 10 per cent, that is *still* a vast discrepancy.

Surely he understands that for every 1 per cent, British industry has to pay £350m a year extra in terms of interest payments.

One of the results is that ICI has declared today that it has been running at a loss for the last six months.

Is not the reason why he has not cut MLR that he is waiting for his Budget in order to have something pleasant to say among all the other disasters he is going to announce. *(Labour cheers.)*

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I am grateful for his tribute to the substantial reduction in inflation. He puts the estimated inflation rate below the *current year on year level. That is* one of the factors that has to be taken into account.

Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab): If he accepts the case for a cut in interest rates, does he expect this is due to his economic success or his economic failure?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The downturn we have seen in the rate of inflation along with the reduction in the rate of interest are among the objectives that this Government is pursuing.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C): The move towards monetary-based control will inevitably bring with it increased volatility in interest rates. Is he happy to lose control of interest rates?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: That is one of the factors to be taken into account in considering moving to monetary based control and the speed of such movement. The fact *that interest rates would be closely* related to the market would have something to be said for it.

Cheap US energy hitting UK textiles

Textiles, clothing and footwear were the most depressed sector of the nation's depressed manufacturing industry and the sharp acceleration in decline had been caused by Government policies, Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade, said when opening a debate.

Mr *Smith* (North *Lanarkshire*, Lab) moved: "This House deplores the worsening crisis in the textile, clothing and footwear industries which is caused by Government economic, industrial and trading policies".

He said it looked as if more than 100,000 jobs had been lost in those industries in 1980. There had been 40,000 lost in the clothing industry alone. In one year 10 per cent of the workforces in those industries had gone.

In recent months there had been several very large closures with firms like *Courtaulds* and ICI shedding labour at an alarming rate.

Those industries were in deep crisis and there appeared to be *no sign of improvement*. The sharp acceleration in the decline of those industries had been caused by the Government's economic and industrial policies.

The over valued pound had hit exports particularly badly and that would get worse in the months to come. It had stimulated imports which were a recurring problem. Borrowing had been affected by the chronically high interest rates. The industries had been hit by depressed demand.

The lack of effective regional development policy had particu*larly hit industries located* in many of the older industrial areas.

He hoped the Government would study carefully the possibility of getting a recession clause *in the new multifibre agreement.*

In the last year or so the main disruptive fact for the textile and clothing industries had not come from the traditionally low cost producers but from the surge of imports from the United States. That had caused a sharp turn round in the trade balance.

The *sharp* stimulus to American imports, particularly in bed *linen*, had come *from the* unfair advantage which the United States conferred on themselves by the energy pricing policies they pursued. The EEC had made no *impact on the American administration.*

The United States had paid not the slightest attention to the representations made by the European Commission and this problem of unfair trading would be carried on into the foreseeable future.

There was a determined export drive going on from the American textile industry which was far too successful *in* obtaining a large share of the British market.

What precisely was the Secretary of State for Trade going to do if the negotiations ended in failure as it looked as if they would do? What action was the Government going to take to defend the interests of the British industry?

Falling exchange rate could hurt industry

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade (Oswestry, C), moved a Government amendment stating that the House acknowledged the difficult trading conditions facing the textile, clothing and footwear industries, noted the measures *which* the Government had taken to give those industries a wide *range of protection, and believed* that their future was best assured by those measures and the pursuit of realistic policies designed to lower the rate of inflation and *maintain access to export markets.*

He said the minimum lending rate now stood above the retail price index and in as much as the MLR was a figure which took an anticipatory view, it was interesting to note that the retail price index was on a declining path and the Treasury forecast that it should be 11 per cent by the autumn.

In the past 22 months there had been a tremendous increase in the exchange rate. I do not think it is quite realized (he said) the extent to which that situation has been adjusting in recent months.

Oil was a major factor in determining the exchange rate and many believed the minimum lending rate made a contribution.

Everyone knew the difficulties from an appreciating exchange rate but the problems for industry caused by depreciating exchange rate should never be concealed. The Germans had experienced difficulties with the Deutschemark, for instance. The weaker mark had not, apparently, necessarily brought competitive advantages. There had been talk of squeezing profit margins.

The difficulties which had confronted the footwear industry were concerned with interest rates, exchange rates, the level of domestic demand and the challenge of imports.

About 50 per cent of the low cost imports were under some kind of restraint and the Department of Trade anti-dumping unit was ready to advise the industry, *and the textile industry, when*ever it was felt representations needed to be made to the European Commission. The Commission's anti-dumping staff should be expanded to operate more efficiently.

Yesterday he had seen members of the Footwear Economic Development Committee, including the chairman. They had validly stressed the importance they attached to minimum lending rate and sterling exchange rate.

Similar difficulties faced the textile and clothing industry. But *the textile industry* was not homogeneous and the whole question of import control could cause problems for some aspects of that industry. Neither was there a united view *of what* were the industry's interests in trade regulation.

The Government was going into the multifibre arrangement negotiations determined to get a good and effective arrangement and to obtain the best possible deal for the United Kingdom.

Anti-Government Tories

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C), chairman of the all-party cotton and allied group, said he *would* vote against the Government and for the Opposition amendment. The Government failed to appreciate the problems and difficulties the textile, clothing and *footwear industries were having in* certain regions of the country.

The textile and clothing industry employed 650,000 people. He contrasted this with the mining industry, employing a smaller number of people, who were getting special treatment from the Government. He hoped *it* would give the same consideration to the textile and clothing industry.

In 1980 the *industry lost* more than 100,000 jobs. If there was no change in Government policy many more factories and mills in the North-West, Lancashire, Northern *Region and Northern Ireland* would be forced to close.

The most effective mills in the world were included in the list of those which were now on a reduced working week.

Because the Government refused to act in the national interest to help a strategic and important industry hundreds of thousands of people were being placed out of work and he found it unacceptable.

Nothing would save the industry other than increased production. Action must be taken to stop *unfair competition and if necessary* non-tariff barriers should be used.

Mr Cyril Smith (Rochdale, L) said the industry needed lower interest rates, short-term financial help, a curb on imports, a control of energy charges rather than a deliberate increase, EEC import controls from low wage countries which were fully enforced and new quotas at lower levels.

The textile industry had never sought protection or to be treated in a better or more generous way than any other industry.

Mr David Trippier (Rossendale, C) said the Government must introduce a new temporary compensation scheme for short-time working to last for 12 months, reduce MLR by at least two points, recognize there was a minimum base which must be preserved under the *recession clause, and take* urgent steps to rectify the high imbalance of footwear imports and make efforts to stimulate home trade.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab) said the Government *should* not reward textile workers who were loyal to their industry with treatment which was unfair compared with those who were more militant.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C), joint chairman of the all-party knitting industries group, said unless he got a meaningful reply to points being raised he would not *be in the lobby* with the Government. He was not prepared to accept a situation where home industries continued to be undermined by unfair foreign competition.

The motion was rejected by 299 votes to 239—Government majority, 60, and the amendment was agreed to.

'Observer' deal will need consent

Government consent would be required for the transfer of ownership of *The Observer* from Atlantic *Richfield to Lonrho, Mr William* Whitelaw, Home Secretary, said when answering questions for the Prime Minister who is in Washington. He said that no application for consent for the transfer had yet been received.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West, Staffordshire, C) said: Can he tell us whether permission was sought for the takeover of *The Observer* newspaper, and if not, why not?

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C): I understand that Lonrho representatives met the Department of Trade officials this morning.

I am told it was made clear at that meeting that the agreement to transfer *The Observer* is conditional on any necessary Government consent being obtained.

On the information we now have, the Government believe that consent will be required.

No application for consent to a transfer has yet been received *in* respect either of Lonrho's acquisition of *The Observer* or of Atlantic Richfield's stake in George Outram.

Any question of a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is premature.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition: The approaches should have been made to the Government at an earlier date (Conservative cries of "Why?".) Will he promise to give a report to the House on the matter?

Mr Whitelaw: When this matter has been further clarified and when an application, if one is made, naturally the Secretary of State for Trade (Mr John Biffen) will consider these matters and will naturally report to the House.

Later, during questions to the Leader of the House, Mr Francis Pym, about next week's business, Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab) said: Since the Secretary of State's decision in *The Times* newspaper case the word is *going round Fleet Street that any* industrial group can pick up a great national newspaper as easily as it can buy a packet of crisps.

Mr Pym (Cambridgeshire, C): I note *what he says. That would be a* matter suitable for an MP to raise on a private Members' day or *in* some other way. It is not likely that Government time will be *forthcoming* in the near future, but I agree about the importance of the subject.

Home Secretary condemns acts by extremists

There was increasing concern in Britain about the activities of racist, Fascist and Nazi organizations, Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) said at Prime Minister's question time.

They were provoking attacks on black and Asian people. Ordinary people (he said) are being put on hit lists by these organizations with the result that they are *receiving* threatening and offensive letters and phone calls.

Mr Dubs asked Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who was deputizing for Mrs Thatcher, for an assurance that his present investigation into these racist organizations would be sufficiently authoritative and wide-ranging so that he could come to the House in the near future with firm proposals for action.

Mr Whitelaw replied: I am aware of the concern he expresses and of the troubles and of some of the evidence of these particular attacks which everyone in all parts of the House would strongly condemn. My investigations will be pursued vigorously and urgently.

We all condemn extremist actions from wherever they come *and they do not all come from one* quarter.

Minister hopes cricket tour will continue

The England cricket selectors should pick the best people for the team currently touring the West Indies, Mr William Whitelaw, deputizing for Mrs Thatcher, said at Prime Minister's question time.

He was replying to Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North, C) who said: Concern has been expressed by lovers of our summer game at the attitude being taken by the government of Guyana over the *possible* selection of Robin Jackman to play for England.

There is support on these benches for the England selectors in picking whoever they choose in the hope that, as a result, we will win the Test match.

Mr Whitelaw: I am sure there would be widespread agreement in the House that the selectors should pick the best people for the team which is undertaking the tour.

I believe there may be some misunderstandings at present which I hope discussions on the spot will clear up. It would be wrong for me to comment in the hope that these will be cleared up and the tour proceed in the best interests of the game of cricket.

MPs to debate strategic deterrent

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Contempt of Court Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Debate on Government motion on the independent strategic deterrent.

Wednesday: Fisheries Bill, remaining stages.

Thursday: Debate on Opposition motion on the disastrous effects of cuts in the educational service.

Friday: Private Member's Bills: Zoo licensing (No 2) Bill, Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Bill and Companies Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Supreme Court Bill, committee. Debate on report of EEC committee on environment policy.

Tuesday: Water Bill, second reading. Industry Bill, committee. Trees (Replanting and Replacement) Bill, report. Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amendment) Bill, third reading. Debate on privatization of certain local authority activities and services.

Wednesday: Debate on levels of regional unemployment.

Thursday: European Assembly Elections Bill, committee. Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, report.

Royal Assent

Royal Assent was signified to the Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers) Act and the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Act.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 9.30: Private Members' Bills: *Horserace Betting Levy Bill and* Development of Tourism (Scotland) Bill, second readings.

Value of lunch vouchers

use of Lords

would be more appropriate to ame the *luncheon voucher the* cup voucher for it no longer chased even one sandwich, the l of Kinnoull (C) said when he ed whether the Government ald consider updating the unious value of the vouchers.

f the Treasury thought it right 1959 to put up the value of cheon vouchers (he said) why s it not consider it right to do now?

d Cockfield, Minister of State, asury, said he assumed the Earl Kinnoull had in mind the income tax concession relating to luncheon vouchers.

Successive governments (he said) have taken the view, with which I concur, that there are strong arguments against extending selective reliefs of this kind.

I realise the value of the lunch*eon voucher exempt from tax has* not changed for many years, nevertheless there is nothing to prevent employers giving vouchers for a higher value than the 15p. Last year 53 per cent of vouchers issued were for more than that sum.

If a voucher was issued for more than 15p, only the first 15p remained exempt from tax.

Bill on new rules for company accounts

hough the Government did not nk the case for action on an C basis had been made out in ne draft directives on comlies, it was not opposed to the nciple of harmonization of comty law, Lord Trefgarne, Under :retary for Trade, said. Harnization of accounting requirents within the Community uld be helpful.

Ie was moving the second read: of the Companies Bill which uld implement the EEC fourth ective on company accounts. It o amends the law relating to *mpany and business names,* duces the functions of the regis-r of companies, and improves companies investigation sysn.

Ie said the directive provided m with the opportunity to introce greater flexibility in their n company law requirements for counts and reduce the demands small firms.

The directive permitted member tes not to apply its provisions to nks and other financial instituns or to insurance companies nding forthcoming coordination. d to defer the date at which pping companies were required adopt the new requirements.

For all these companies, the Government intended to keep virtually the status quo on the statute book for the time being.

Schedule 1 of the Bill contained the bulk of the accounting provisions of the directive. What was involved was primarily a shift from non-statutory to statutory regulation.

When the Bill was enacted there would certainly be much more *on* the statute book concerning company accounts than was the case now. But in the Government's view, the major and vital role in the developing of good accounting standards and practice would remain with the profession itself.

The Bill created two new classes of company for the purposes of accounts, medium-sized companies and small companies, and provided exemptions from the full accounting requirements for each class. The Government considered it right to retain full requirements for accounts prepared for shareholders, who were entitled to the fullest information about their company.

The exemptions available applied only to accounts required to be *filed with the registrar. In essence,* small companies would need only *to file an abridged balance sheet;* they would not be required to file a profit and loss account or a directors' report. This represented a major reduction in the filing obligations of small companies.

Medium-sized companies would be permitted to withold information of their turnover and trading margins, thus preserving their competitive position, for example *vis-a-vis* large groups.

Part II of the Bill amended the law relating to the registration of companies and company names. The number of companies on the *register had grown from about* 530,000 to 800,000 between 1970 and 1980. Searches at the Companies Registration Office increased from 1,400,000 1970 to 2,600,000 in 1980.

These functions were a substantial call on the resources of the Department of Trade and it was right that the Government should have undertaken a searching look *at company and business name* registration when it took office.

The proposals *in* the Bill would simplify some of those functions and thus enable the office to operate more efficiently.

The Bill repealed the Registra*tion of Business Names Act 1916,* originally passed to ensure that enemy nationals did not conceal their business activities in this country.

The basic need, which the Bill sought to meet, was for provisions whereby persons dealing with businesses could find out details of their ownership.

A central registrar was not a practical option. The Bill therefore established a system under which businesses would be required to make the information available, whether to their customers or sup*pliers or other interested persons,* by display at places of business and on business letters and demands for payments.

The Bill would contribute to the greater effectiveness of the companies inspection system. It extended the classes of persons who might be required to give evidence in the course of investigations.

The Bill contained much of benefit, particularly to small companies. Its provisions would be reinforced by clauses which the Government would be tabling shortly to enable companies to purchase their own shares.

Redundancy fund to be increased

The Redundancy Fund Bill which raises the limit on the amount that can be borrowed from the National Loans Fund from £16m to £200m was read a second time.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said the Bill, which has passed the Commons, would also raise the amount to which the Secretary of State for Employment could increase the limit by order from £40m to £300m with Parliamentary approval.

He said the redundancy fund was used to pay rebates to employers who had made statutory redundancies. Where an employer was insolvent, redundancy payments and other entitlements to employees were paid from the fund.

There were various things the Government could have done. It could have reduced the scale of *redundancy payments*, reduced the level of rebate to employers or increased the level of contributions, but these would not have been sensible in the depth of a severe recession.

The Bill was read a second time.

The night sky in March

By our Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury will reach greatest elongation in the morning sky on the 16th, but it will rise less than an hour before the Sun and, although brightening, is not likely *to be seen.*

Venus is still a bright morning object, but it is getting too near the Sun for observation as it approaches superior conjunction early next month.

Mars is still an evening object, but like Venus is too close to the Sun for observation. Unlike Venus it has been lurking in twilight for several months and will continue *to do so for several more.*

Jupiter will come into opposition on the 26th and will be prominent at magnitude −2 from mid-evening onwards. It will then be at its nearest for the coming year, 668 million km (415 million miles).

Saturn will reach opposition on the 27th and although less bright than Jupiter will also be readily noticed. Its distance will be 1,283 *million km (798 million miles).* The Moon is near both planets on the night 20th-21st.

Uranus in Libra will be rising about midnight during the month.

Neptune in Ophiuchus will be rising at about 02h.

The Moon: new, 6d11h; first quarter, 13d02h: full, 20d15h; last quarter, 28d20h.

Algol: approximate times of evening minima are 8d21b, 28d23h and 31d19h.

The spring or vernal equinox will be on the 20th at 17h. This is when the Sun will cross the celestial equator from south to north and *day and night should* be of equal length. In fact, the most equal days will be the 17th and 18th.

British Summer Time will begin on the 29th, when 02h GMT will become 3 am BST. This is a departure from the usual date and many diaries had already been printed when the decision was made. GMT will continue to be used in *these notes* unless specifically stated otherwise.

As we all know, most stars in the northern half of our monthly map are circumpolar and never set, and those in the south move from east to west as the night passes and eventually do set. Experience shows, as does a comparison between successive *Times* maps, that there is a similar *east-west change from month to* month at a fixed time such as 23h.

At this time of year there is another factor curtailing the visibility of constellations in the western sky, the lengthening of evening daylight. The January map is valid for March 1 at 19h and shows Pegasus not quite set and therefore observable. By mid-March the map will apply at 18h, but Pegasus will not be observable as daylight will have caught up with it.

By way of contrast the September map shows Arcturus just setting but still observable. The aspect applied to December 1 at 17h and the star would still *have been observable, as the* Sun had set over an hour earlier.

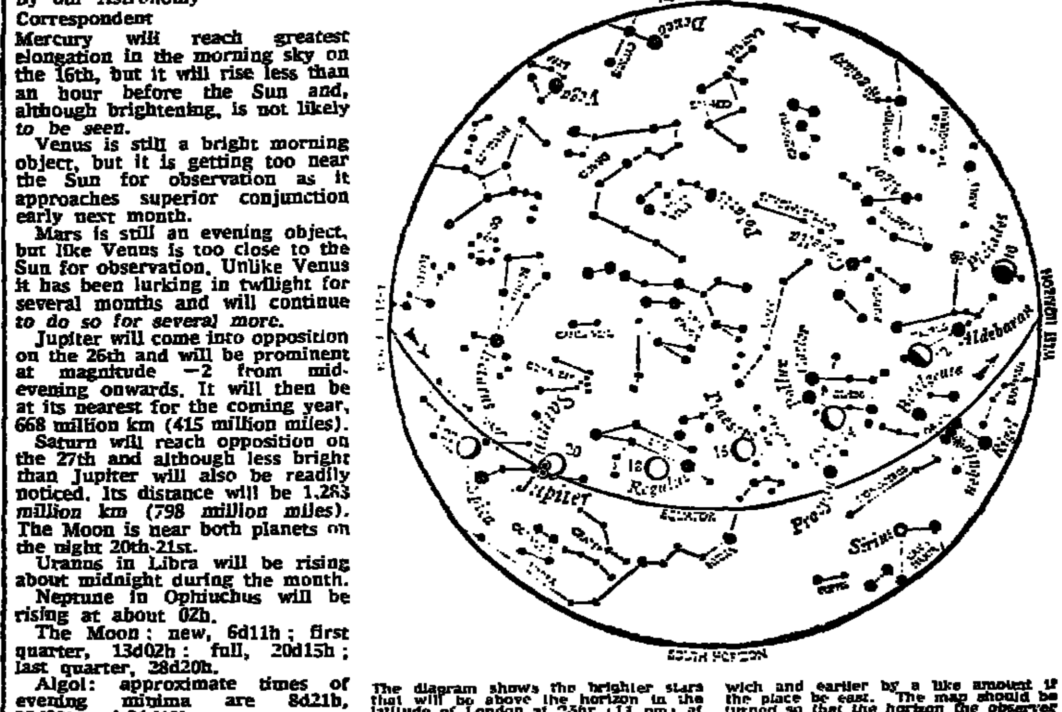
Little can be seen now of the starry sky earlier than 19h, so the western constellations will soon be lost.

If binocular users have not yet looked for the galaxy in Andromeda, the most distant object visible to the naked eye, this is the last chance for some *months. Its altitude* between 19 and 20h will be from 40° to 30°, clear of horizon mists but not so high as to strain the neck. Until the 6th there will be no moon*light* and most of the twilight will have gone. The object will be a little to the north of west.

Other binocular objects mentioned in January will be observable all evening: in the west the open clusters Pleiades and Hyades (the region around Aldebaran) in Taurus; between south and west the nebula in Orion; and fairly high towards the south is the cluster Praesepe (the Beehive) in Cancer. With all three, avoid nights when the Moon is near; indeed, it is better to avoid all dates when the Moon appears on our map.

For the next month or two Leo will be the dominant group in the south aspect. It is one of the most ancient of the constellations, *going back to Babylonian and* Egyptian times. That was long before Greek mythology associated it with the Nemen lion killed by Hercules.

In those early days, when the Zodiac was invented, the Sun was in Leo at the height of summer; precession of the equinoxes has since moved the solstice to the Gemini-Taurus boundary. Thus the constellation in ancient Egypt was associated with the Sun: It has even been suggested that the Sphinx is a representation of Leo.



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23hr (11 pm) at the beginning 22hr (10 pm) in the middle and 21hr (9 pm) at the end of the month, local Mean Time. At places away from the Greenwich Meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notations, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

Opposition demands for calculation of total cost of unemployment

use of Commons

Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary the Treasury, was involved in ghty exchanges *about the cost* unemployment to the Exequer.

r Ronald Leighton (Newham, rth East, Lab) asked for the *it to the Exchequer of 2,400,000* employed, taking account of loss of revenue from direct d indirect taxation, national urance contributions and pplementary and other benefits.

Brittan (Cleveland and Whitby, : February's *Economic Progress port* article notes that each rease of 100,000 in the level of employment in the private ctor costs the Exchequer £340m terms of tax foregone and reased benefit payments.

If unemployment occurs in the blic sector there could be ings rather than costs.

He should note the article's mment that such estimates cant be grossed up to give an timate for all those at present employed.

Mr Leighton: His misguided efforts to cut public spending, because they increase unemploy*ment, are self-defeating.* Research done for me by the Library, using the Treasury model, and the survey which Mr Brittan mentioned, shows the current cost of the unemployment queue to be about £8,500m.

If he were to increase demand in the economy and ensure that this does not suck in imports, we would put the country back *to work, increase* wealth and cut the public sector borrowing requirement.

Mr Brittan: He would not wish to ascribe to the Library his own errors. *The article* made clear that it was misleading to gross up the total to get the costs.

Simply to spend large sums of money as he advocates would mean *higher* taxation and borrowing, higher interest rates and damage to the economy.

Mr Alan Hazelhurst (Saffron Walden, C): Would it not make a difference to the question of these resources being used to ease unemployment among young people, if those aged between 16 and 18 were taken out of the collective bargaining system and paid a simple standard allowance, whatever they are doing?

Mr Brittan: It is true that those aged 16 to 18, when they are *employed, often work on* the same collective bargaining conditions as the rest of the population, frequently making employers more reluctant to employ them.

Mr Peter Hardy (Rother Valley, Lab): Research shows that the cost of unemployment for an adult male is £4,500 a year and that this does not allow for the enormous administrative costs or for the recent increase in the benefit or national insurance contributions.

Is the problem not so enormous that Government policy should be changed and early retirement for men introduced?

Mr Brittan: There is an average cost of £3,500 to the Exchequer for every extra unemployed person coming out of the private sector. I do not believe early retirement could solve the problem.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C): Has his department estimated the cost of each year's reduction in the age of early retirement to the Exchequer, and the numbers presently unemployed who may gain employment if this were done?

Mr Brittan: Without a specific figure, the cost of reducing the retirement age in the sense of making available retirement pensions to people at an earlier age, would be considerable.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury *and economic* affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab): After all the obfuscation and stonewalling of recent months on this *interesting question of unemploy*ment costs, we were glad to see the *Economic Progress Report* article. But it is patently an understatement of the true cost.

Why, for example, are not the costs of the additional one third unemployed, for every 100,000 registered unemployed, added, in *terms of their failure* to be able to contribute income tax payments? That is an obvious addition.

The indirect tax costs, those attributed to inability to pay VAT and excise duties, could have been included in the figures.

If he can produce figures for 100,000 unemployed, why on earth cannot he give reasonable esti*mates of the total costs of the two* and a half million?

Mr Brittan: He complains if there is no estimate and again when a serious article is published *setting out the matter.*

A lot would depend upon the cause of the unemployment so one cannot take these indirect factors into account. If, for example, the impact of unemployment in one sector was that those in the remaining sector increased productivity, the effect would be quite different.

FOREIGN REPORT

Civil crusaders of Solidarity need breathing space to put their house in order

What is Solidarity? An "independent self-governing trade union", *says its statute*. A political party manipulated by counter-revolutionary elements, say communist "agitators" in Prague and East Berlin. "The Polish nation in opposition", *says a Roman Catholic observer* in Warsaw. A virtue and a grace, declares the Pope.

A civil crusade is perhaps the nearest one could come to describing Solidarity's present condition in a phrase.

Six months after its violent birth in the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk, it is unclear what kind of organization Solidarity will become. If the social peace achieved in the first fortnight of General Wojcieck Jaruzelski's Government lasts, the movement's national leadership will be able to address the question for the first time in relative tranquility.

The National Coordinating Commission (KKP) has thus far had no chance for cool, calm deliberation. Since its hasty formation last September *Solidarity's only central council* has lurched from one symbolic conflict to the next, in an almost continuous battle to force a reluctant and divided party leadership to honour the commitments it made in last summer's agreements.

Professor Boleslaw Geremek, a historian by calling and perhaps the most brilliant of Solidarity's advisers, describes the impact of this long drawn-out struggle on the 52 regional representatives who make up the KKP. These men (like the TUC, Solidarity's leadership seems to be a male preserve) are workers, mostly young, and generally with no experience of political organization until the day when they were cata*pulted into their present* seats by popular acclamation.

Mr Ryszard Kalinowski, for example, one of Mr Lech Walesa's two deputy chairmen, is a 27-year-old electrician *from the northern* industrial town of Elblag. "I just got up on a packing case and started to speak; and the people seemed to like what I said", he reminisces. He has not looked back since. According to sources in the mushrooming (and uncensored) union press, Mr Kalinowski and the majority of his colleagues can be confident of being confirmed in office at the regional elections due to be held on March 10. (Elections at the local level were held in January.)

It is remarkable how much these true representatives of Poland's new working class have learnt in six months, starting from scratch, in the practice of pluralist democracy. In their cramped smoke-filled committee-room in the Hotel Morski in Gdansk, the KKP engages in spirited debate. Little time is now wasted. There is even a recognized signal—raised hands with palms open—to stop a bore. The *discussion is skilfully* guided by "experts" like Professor Geremek and Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki, a prominent Roman Catholic intellectual and prospective editor *of the union's weekly paper*.

In the meantime, Mr Walesa has acquired a pipe and the rudiments of chairmanship. Left to himself he is still inclined to take spontaneous and *rash decisions. Fortunately for* Poland, he is not often left to himself. His tutors are constantly by his side, tactful but vigilant. An increasingly prominent role is played by Mr *Karol Modzelewski, like* Professor Geremek a medievalist but unlike him a full member of the commission of representative from Wroclaw and official press spokesman. Mr Modzelewski's old friend, Mr Jacek Kuron (they were co-authors of a dissident "*Open Letter of the Party* as early as 1964), best known for his tireless activity in the opposition Social Self-Defence Committee (KOR), can occasionally be heard to growl an interjection from a back seat.

But most of the talking, and the voting, is done by the workers. There are no clear divisions between "moderates" and "hardliners" among them. "Only cows do not change their minds", one of Mr Walesa's closest collaborators memora*bly averred at a recent* meeting, when changing his. Rather the whole commission has become more militant, faced with the persistent procrastination of the authorities. "In September I really believed the Government wanted to keep its word. Now I only believe in the truncheon [strike action]" Mr Kalinowski sums up bluntly.

If the national leadership is more militant now than last September the real Jacobins are to be found in the regions. Last month saw regional branches in the south and east of the country backing up *their political demands* (for instance, for the dismissal of corrupt officials) with independent large-scale industrial action.

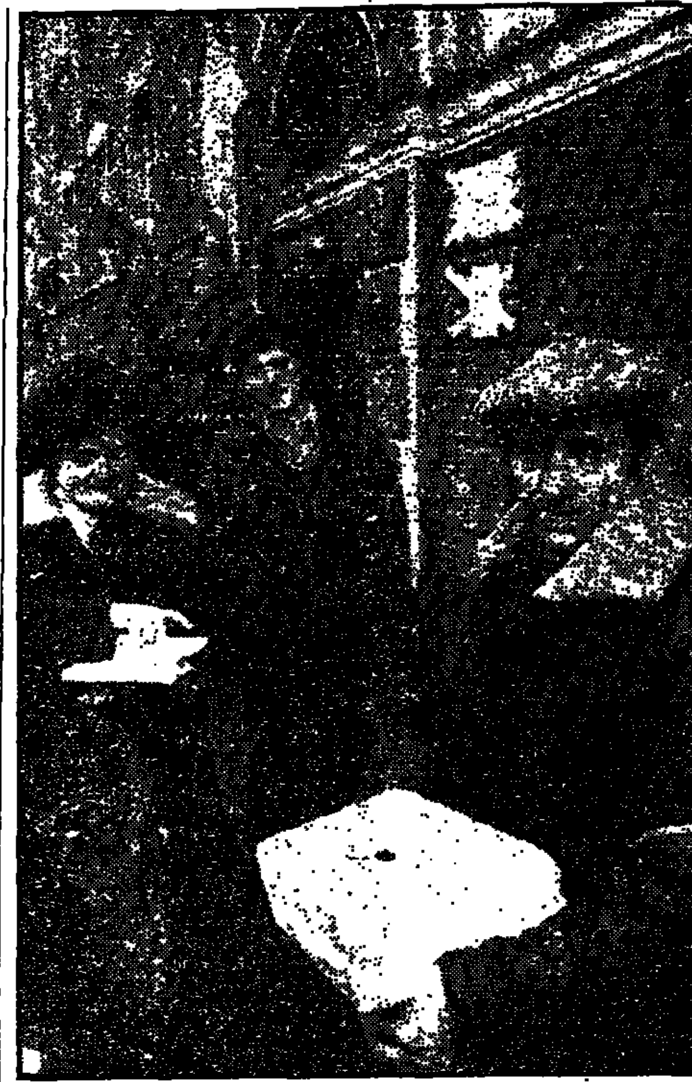
The problem is the weakness *of the union's central authority*. As its name suggests, the KKP is only a "coordinating" commission. The statute gives it no power of command. Furthermore, until this month Solidarity was without any permanent central executive. In effect, no national decisions could be made between one meeting of the KKP and the next. And they were not binding.

At its meeting, on February 12, the KKP finally tackled this problem. Appointing an ad hoc standing committee to supervise the industrial truce, they passed a resolution sounding a warning in the strongest terms against "uncoordinated" local actions. It mentioned explicitly the threat of a break down into "50 regional organizations" which "could mean the death of our movement".

Solidarity may now have a breathing space to put its house in order. There will clearly be lively debate about what that order should be. It must steer between anarchic devolution and sclerotic over-centralization (of which disease Poland's planned economy provides an awful example).

It has its own problem of proportional representation. It must make some decisions abut finance. The statute gives control of the budget to the KKP, *but the budget is nowhere* defined. Members are already paying their standard subscriptions (generally 1 per cent of the monthly wage) to Solidarity. Estimates of membership range from eight to 10 million, but no one knows exactly what rights and duties membership involves. How far should Solidarity take part in the limited workers' control of enterprises envisaged in the government plan of economic reform?

Then it has to establish priorities among all the good intentions, from improving kindergartens to reproving alcoholics, set out in its statute and propaganda. Only on February 12 did the KKP at last find time to begin to work out a concrete programme.



Collecting money for Solidarity in the streets of Rzeszow.

None of this can be considered independently of the conduct of the regime. In the Politburo and the state apparatus, if not so much now in the Government, there are still powerful men who do not wish to see Solidarity put its house in order, indeed do not wish it to be accommodated at all.

In Warsaw, for example, the largest regional branch in the country has operated for months from makeshift premises in two converted flats. They have only five telephones and two Telex machines to communicate with more than 3,000 local branches. Near by, officials of the re-formed state trade unions, with a membership at most a quarter the size of Solidarity's, pace the echoing corridors of the spacious building which formerly belonged to the defunct *Central Council of Trade* Unions. The Mayor of Warsaw says he has difficulty in finding space for Solidarity.

As Professor Geremek says there is a symbiosis between the hawks in the party and in Solidarity. The more uncompromising are the authorities, the more the opponents of compromise gain the upper hand in the union's branches.

It lies in the power of the Polish authorities to facilitate that peaceful consolidation towards which Solidarity's national leadership has long been working. Of the current points at issue, only the limitation of censorship by law must require the direct *approval of* Moscow. The rest, including most importantly access to the news media and the new trade union law, are at the discretion of Poland's rulers: to con*cede or not to concede*.

The last Government did their best not to concede apparently preferring to provoke trials of strength, which invariably ended in more or less *humiliating defeats disguised* (by courtesy of Solidarity) as compromises. As a result, the regime leadership's stock of good will is lower even than it was in September. It has had *to concede more than it might* have obtained, for example, on the question of work free Saturdays.

The new Government must work twice as hard to regain a minimum of confidence of Solidarity activists throughout the country. Yet there is still a chance that Solidarity will be enabled to make the transition from being a new kind of crusade to being a new kind of trade union.

Timothy Garton Ash

Andean Pact under stress

Is the Andean Pact, once regarded as one of the most *promising economic integration* experiments, not only in Latin America but the whole of the Third World, on the brink of collapse?

Less than a year ago when the pact was entering its second decade and trade strategy and tariffs were the main points of contention such a question would have been unthinkable. Yet today many observers within the "Andean Five" (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) are seriously viewing the unthinkable as an increasing possibility.

The current border flare-up between Peru and Ecuador is hardly a glowing testimony to the principles of regional co-operation and harmony to which the pact is pledged.

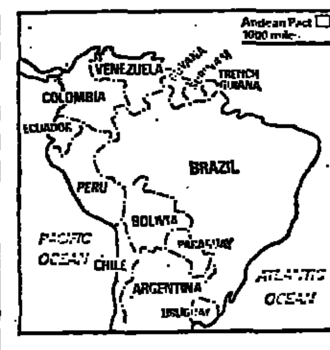
It is even more tragic when it is considered that it is only during the last two years that first Ecuador and then Peru (pressed hard by the Carter Administration and nudged by Venezuela and Colombia) each ended a decade of military dictatorship and returned to the democratic camp.

There is plenty of irony and a good deal of wishful thinking in the remark of President Fer*nando Belaúnde Terry of Peru*, that the border conflict "must not paralyse the Andean Pact".

Even so, the gunfire on the Peruvian-Ecuadorean frontier is only the latest of a series of blows suffered by the pact.

For the last seven months, Bolivia has found itself scorned and isolated by its four partners. Since democracy is one of the ideals of the pact, the other four suspended diplomatic relations with La Paz after the military coup in July 1980 killed Bolivia's most hopeful and advanced attempt in many years to *return to the democratic* fold. Peru though has since recognized the new Bolivian regime.

Another setback was the election defeat of President Carter, who had favoured and cultivated the Andean Pact as against the Southern Cone block of military dictatorships (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay).



Peru and Ecuador have been clashing intermittently for many years over their common border, an area covering some 300 square kilometres of isolated jungle in the Condor mountain range, rumoured to contain oil or uranium. Last weekend fresh violence broke out. The two army commands have now agreed to meet to discuss setting up a demilitarized zone. This last clash between two of its members is only one more dispute in the many that have shaken the Andean Pact in recent years.

Past statements by President Reagan and his advisers indicate that the new Administration's policy towards the South American continent will be almost a complete reversal.

According to reports from Washington, United States policy will be geared to a so called "ABC Strategy" in which the key countries (as far as the State Department is concerned) will be Argentina, Brazil and Chile, whose governments were constantly irritated by Mr Carter's human rights policy.

In recent years Venezuela and Colombia have emerged as the strongest members and self-styled leaders of the Andean Pact. They also won favour with Mr Carter because they were conspicuously the only two functioning democracies in South America when he took office (though the purity of Colombia's democracy and its record on human rights have since been called into question).

Yet here, too, relations have suddenly become extremely strained. The two countries' failure to settle a long-standing dispute over maritime limits has added to tensions caused by Venezuela's unceremonious *recent expulsion of several* hundred Colombian "indocumentados" (illegal immigrants).

Since it is estimated that there are over a million Colombians living and working illegally in Venezuela, this problem threatens to grow worse if the Caracas Government expels more "indocumentados" in the coming months.

Venezuela's Christian Democratic Government of President Luis Herrera Campins has also dismayed its pact partners by its open support of the discredited Christian Democratic-military junta in El Salvador.

In 1979, during the closing stages of the Nicaraguan civil war, the pact recognized the provisional Sandinista Government then being set up in Costa Rica. It was the first time the *pact had flexed its combined* political muscle in international affairs, but in the more complicated case of El Salvador there has been considerably less willingness (except by Venezuela) *to get involved*.

Only days after the shooting started on the border between Peru and Ecuador, the pact was dealt yet another blow, the resignation of Señor Adolfo Suárez, the Spanish Prime Minister.

Señor Suárez had signed important commercial and cultural agreements with the Andean Pact, had attended pact summit conferences and had established good working relationships with most of the pact's presidents.

He had also promised that once Spain joined the European *Economic Community he would* personally champion the Andean cause in Europe. In short, he was widely regarded as the best friend the pact has ever had in the Old World.

And nobody denies that the pact is in need of such a friend. When President Julio César Turbay of Colombia opened the European and Latin American Interparliamentary conference in Bogotá recently, he claimed that a major Andean Pact-EEC trade relations agreement would have been signed last year but for the military takeover in Bolivia which damaged the pact's democratic image in the eyes of Europe. Mme Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament, was present and did not contradict him.

Against all this pessimism there is a bright side, according to certain optimists who believe that the Peruvian-Ecuadorean conflict is a storm in a teacup which will soon blow itself out.

According to the same optimists, the pact may even one day be grateful to Bolivia's latest strongman, General Luis García Meza, precisely because even by the standards of that country's long line of dictators he has proved particularly ruthless, brutal, corrupt, and, above all, disastrous in managing South America's weakest economy.

There is a conviction among such optimists that as Bolivia heads further down the road to economic ruin, liberal officers will eventually oust him and set Bolivia back on a democratic course. According to this theory, since General Meza has proved such a disaster it will then be a long time before the rightwing military dare venture out of their barracks again.

The general's ability to survive has been underestimated before but it is hard to see how he can hang on much longer without United States and Andean Pact aid (both severed after the coup) and with his overtures to align Bolivia with the Southern Cone apparently spurned.

It should also be noted that the pact has weathered previous crises most notably in 1976 when Chile quit in protest against a new rule in stipulating 51 per cent local control in all foreign company operations in pact countries.

So, despite its current problems, the pact—representing a market of 73 million and whose internal and foreign trade have boomed in recent years—should not be written off yet.

Geoffrey Matthews

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Motoring

Petrol prices falling on motorways

There were hopes, when the Government announced last year that it was withdrawing from direct financial involvement in motorway service areas, that the large gap between what motorists have to pay for petrol on the motorway and off it would be substantially reduced.

The operators of motorway service areas have traditionally argued that one of the reasons for having to charge higher prices for petrol was what they considered to be the excessive rents demanded by the Government for the privilege of carrying on business.

It is widely accepted that petrol on the motorway should carry some premium because of the special costs incurred in running a service area. Petrol stations are required to stay open 24 hours a day, which means taking on extra staff and paying them overtime, and because many service areas are in remote rural areas transport for staff has to be provided.

But the rent paid to the Government is one overhead that will disappear as operators buy out their leases, and that should allow them to reduce petrol prices. At the beginning of November, one leading oil company predicted that the average price of motorway petrol would fall from 147p a gallon to 134p in three months.

Perhaps that was being optimistic, for a colleague who stopped on the Rownhams service area on the M27 in Hampshire last week found himself having to pay £1.55 a gallon, or 20p to 25p more than the prevailing prices off the motorway.

There was, admittedly, a sweetener in the shape of a 60p voucher available to motorists buying six gallons. But that was not as generous a gesture as it might seem, since the voucher had to be spent in shops or cafeterias on service areas run by the Rownhams operator, Roadchef.

Elsewhere prices have come down a little, and a survey at the turn of the year found that it was possible to buy petrol on the motorway for £1.38 a gallon at a time when the average off-motorway price was about £1.30. The trend, at least, is in the right direction, although it is not a consistent one.

A welcome development is that more motorway petrol stations are posting their prices on the forecourt so that the motorist can know in advance what he is being asked to pay. Such a practice has, up to now, been very rare.

No motorist, of course, has to buy petrol on a motorway. Most cars can travel for 300 miles or more without the need for a fill-up and it should be possible to plan the journey so that the motorway service area does not become a desperate resort. Many drivers bear this in mind, for although motorways account for 7 per cent of traffic, their contribution to total petrol sales is only 1.7 per cent.

Moreover, motorway petrol sales have been declining. Between 1973 and 1977 the gallonage sold by six service areas on the M1 fell by 12 per cent: traffic, during the same period, went up slightly, while petrol sales in the United Kingdom overall increased by five per cent.

Incidentally, the Prior committee, which was set up by the Government to look into motorway service areas and reported in 1978, concluded that the public should not have to pay more for petrol on the motorways than off them. "So long as the present situation continues", the report said, "motorists will drive off motorways on to less safe roads to buy petrol."

The committee accepted that the requirement to stay open 24 hours a day might lead to extra cost, but it claimed that the huge gallonage sold and the special credit arrangements made with suppliers cancelled that.



More speed, less fuel—the Mercedes-Benz 200

Road test: Mercedes-Benz 200

Everyone, apparently, is doing it and you would not expect a company with the technical expertise of Mercedes-Benz to be any exception. What they are all doing is devising ways of making engines at the same time more economical and more powerful; for a company selling only large cars this is a particularly pressing requirement.

In fact, the new Mercedes four-cylinder engines have a double purpose. They have been developed not only for the current "compact" range but for the smaller model due to be launched in 1983-84, when the 2.3 and two-litre units are expected to be joined by a 1.7-litre.

Mercedes emphasizes that the engines are not revised versions of the previous four-cylinder ones, but completely new designs. Apart from giving better economy and more power, the aim was to match the smoothness of small six-cylinder units. To complement the engines, Mercedes has brought out a new four-speed manual gearbox.

The new engines, made of light alloy with overhead camshaft, are smaller, enabling both coolant and oil capacity to be reduced. That helps to give a quicker warm-up, which is one factor contributing to improved fuel economy.

On the two-litre unit a valve in the carburettor automatically cuts off the fuel when engine speed rises above 6,000 rpm.

I have been trying the base Mercedes model, 200, with its new engine, and the difference is perceptible. The previous 200 did feel underpowered at times, especially when overtaking in top gear. The same cannot be said for the present car: it is still far from being the quickest two litre on the market but performance is never less than adequate.

The new two-litre unit develops 109 bhp, compared with the previous engine's 94, which is equivalent to the output of the old 2.3-litre. (The new 2.3, which is fuel-injected, develops a spirited 136 bhp). The results are a claimed maximum speed of 104 mph (formerly 99 mph) and, more importantly, better acceleration through the gears and more torque.

I drove the car not with the new manual box but with the four-speed torque converter automatic transmission which Mercedes is offering for the first time on the 200 model.

Mercedes claims a 0 to 60 mph acceleration time with the automatic of just over 15 seconds, which I would say is conservative, and the kickdown is a potent aid to quick overtaking.

If anything, the car feels quicker than it really is, which is partly a tribute to the smoothness and quietness of the engine. I cannot say I had any occasion to reach the 6,000 rpm cut-off point, but at more sensible levels the unit was impressively refined and well up to six-cylinder standard. With little wind noise, motorway cruising is a notably relaxed affair.

Mercedes is not a company given to boasting, but it could justifiably have made more noise about the improved fuel consumption of the 200. According to the official Government figures, the current model is 20 to 25 per cent more economical which is a remarkable achievement. Most drivers should get about 23 mpg in town and 25 or more on the open road.

Apart from the engine, the car continues much as before. Picking out a few of its salient characteristics, I must mention the crisp and responsive handling; this is helped by excellent (standard) power steering combining lightness with feel and efficient brakes.

The corollary is a ride that is firm to hard, a little choppy over bumps, with some tyre noise. The seats are similarly firm, but not uncomfortably so.

The 200 also embodies the traditional Mercedes virtues of robust construction and thorough engineering. It is a reassuringly solid and well-finished car, giving the promise of unobstrusively reliable service. At £8,700 (automatic transmission costs another £615) it may be base but it is not as was the case a few years back, basic.

Aids to economy

Renault is another manufacturer concerned to improve economy and to this end has devised what it calls the normalur, a combined cruise control and sped limiter—which can either lock the speed at its present level or be programmed to observe a given speed limit.

The normalur, which promotes economical driving by reducing the variations in vehicle speed and throttle opening, is fitted as standard on the top Renault model, the 30TX, and is an option on a new TX version of the 20, which goes on sale in Britain this week at £7,677 (£8,035 with automatic transmission). The 20TX has a 2.2 litre engine, derived from the current two-litre.

Another economy aid, fitted to the 20TL and LS models, is the econometer. Three lamps tell the driver how frugal he is performing: green means "economical", amber means "ease off the throttle" and red means "change to a higher gear".

Peter Waymark

(continued on page 30)



Drawing by Richard Cole

David Nicholson-Lord on the complex forces behind Ulster loyalism

The Paisley no-surrender show

The forefinger is raised in denunciation. The voice, a stentorian bass with a hint of vibrato, rises frequently to a foghorn bellow. The argument drives towards one unvarying conclusion: No surrender.

The Rev Ian Paisley is preaching to the Loyalist faithful in Ulster. Outside the small Orange hall, draped with Union Jacks and jam-packed with his supporters, his voice, relayed by loudspeaker, reverberates round narrow, darkened streets where further crowds cluster.

The location is Newtownards, County Down, but could as well be any one of the dozen other staging posts along what Mr Paisley has termed his "Carson trail" of opposition to the "creeping process of all-Ireland integration". The method of his campaigning against December's Anglo-Irish summit has been strongly condemned as exploiting loyalist fears and swamping the scope for rational debate in Ulster. That, at least, is how this latest instalment of Paisleyism has been represented outside Northern Ireland. Out on the campaign trail in Ulster, however, it appears rather different from its stereotype.

This, for example, does not hint at the pervasiveness of religion. At Newtownards, as at every Paisley rally, proceedings begin with prayers, with the singing of "O God Our Help in Ages Past", with the passing round of plastic buckets for the "silent collection" (notes, not cash) that Mr Paisley has requested. Speeches, often delivered with the vocal quaver favoured by evangelists, are punctuated with favourite Loyalist or gospel songs, the words often rewritten to allude to Mr Paisley's latest exploit. Points of emphasis are greeted with cries of "Amen". Mr Paisley himself tells of remarks he has made "in the pulpit", hastily correcting it to "in public".

The revivalist parallel is clear, but is perhaps less striking than the identification of God, Ulster, Protestantism and righteousness in one unified symbol of allegiance. To the secular mind, this may be confused thinking, but as one speaker declares, Ulster is more than farmland and mountainside: it is "a people who have a faith and who have values that reflect that faith". Mr Paisley, who calls the people "Ulster Scots", calls the faith Calvinism, which means, he says, that a man is immortal while he has got a job to do.

"And so long as God needs me in my role neither a bullet from the IRA nor poisoned chalice from the enemies of Ulster will remove me from the scene."

Those present have earlier thanked God, in their prayers, for Mr Paisley. One wonders whether he might not form part of the grace in that God's dispensation.

In performance, Mr Paisley also displays a penchant for burlesque and knockabout barely suggested by his forays into the English headlines. His enemies are by turns caricatured, impersonated or pejoratively nicknamed: the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland thus becomes "Humpty-Dumpty" Atkins while the Irish Prime Minister is invariably Mr "Charlie is my darling" Haughey, a reference to his rapprochement with Mrs Thatcher. It may not be subtle, but it is carried off with such unabashed showmanship and evident enjoyment that it seldom fails to delight his audience, not least journalists from Dublin who have come prepared to criticize.

Last week it was the turn of two Official Unionist MPs, Mr James Molyneaux and Mr Harold McCusker, who had joined in the controversy about Army security on the night Sir Norman Stronge, the former Stormont Speaker, and his son James, were killed in Armagh. Mr Paisley's attack on Mr Atkins as a liar over this led to his suspension from the Commons. Now the two MPs were appealing for "accurate" information and seeking a meeting with Mr Philip Goodhart, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence.

Mr Paisley clearly views this as getting in on the act. "Maigret Molyneaux and Kojak McCusker", he scoffs. Then his face assumes a beatific expression, he wrings his hands together and in hesitant and deferential tones addresses an invisible minister. "Philip," he says, "We want an assurance." The shoulders are hunched and vulturous, the voice a querulous falsetto.

In case his audience misses the implication, Mr Paisley cuts off the laughter with an abrupt shift in mood. "What sort of assurance can change the murders that have taken place," he suddenly thunders. "I am sick of assurances from the liars that sit on the front-bench in Westminster".

Here, as elsewhere, the appeal is not so much to loyalism as to a recognizable Ulster variant of both the provincial resentment of the metropolitan for its assumed superiority and also the populism which distrusts a distant, effete and somewhat alien Government. The Ulsterman who "collaborates", the message runs, is guilty at best of feebleness, at worst of betrayal.

It is a reaction based at least partly on race. "If the English ministers think they are going to give up Ulster into the hands of the Republic," he declares, "they have another think coming." And he earns one of the loudest cheers of the evening when he describes how "elated" he feels at having had the privilege "in your name" of calling Mr Atkins a liar.

Seen from the perspective of grassroots Loyalism, the last decade in Ulster may appear a long series of concessions. Politically this has led to a feeling in some quarters that there may be more ways of delivering up Ulster to the Republic than by abandoning the constitutional guarantee to the majority population. Psychologically it has created a certain bruised resentment, a detectable feeling of being an outcast within the United Kingdom without quite knowing why.

Mr Paisley, describing himself as "Mr Ulster" and introduced to his audiences as "Ulster's only politician of international standing and repute", stands those feelings on their head, assisted by the demonology of Irish history. In view of his own "collaboration" in the devolution talks last year, he does so at some risk to a reputation for consistency. But whatever his motive, and there is good reason to doubt that it is exclusively electoral, his current series of rallies show that the forces to which he appeals are considerably more complex than the label of "loyalism" suggests.

Syria's Jewish paradox

Damascus

Mr Selim Totah stepped nimbly across the puddles of the little alleyway and led us across a bright, airy courtyard strung with thin vines. There was a building on one side, a blue-painted structure with windows that looked for all the world like an ordinary home until Mr Totah gently pushed open the door.

The heavily carpeted floor of the little Damascus synagogue came as something of a shock. Light poured down from an ornate iron chandelier and Arab rugs hung around the walls, each bearing a Hebrew inscription; the curtain at the far end was pulled aside to reveal the Torah.

A man stepped forward and opened the small silver doors, disclosing the old Hebrew text inside. The light tumbled and glanced off the silver as we all stood on the carpets, Mr Totah, the president of the Syrian Jewish Community Council, Mr Ibrahim Hamra, the Chief Rabbi, a local Jewish schoolteacher, the official Syrian Government interpreter and a Syrian ministry driver, a dark-haired Kurd who stood nearer to the door of the synagogue, stunned perhaps that such an institution should exist in the capital city of Israel's most formidable enemy.

Mr Hamra stood with his yarmulke skullcap on his head. "The Torah is 200 years old", he said, as an elderly Jew moved forward and wound the dark scroll of parchment. Between fifty and sixty Jews attend the El-Ferenje synagogue every day although their number is sometimes augmented by less orthodox worshippers.

Asked whether the Syrian president or his ministers had ever visited El-Ferenje, Mr Totah replied in Arabic, and the government interpreter—a genuinely helpful and very intelligent woman—translated him thus: "Sometimes people come to this synagogue but not as officials." But what Mr Totah actually said in Arabic was: "Sometimes the security police come to this synagogue, but not officially."

The Syrian "*Muhabarat*" plain clothes police also visit the Damascus mosques in search of the Muslim Brotherhood although there is no doubt that their interest in Syria's 5,000-strong Jewish community is prompted by other considerations. Israel is not a subject which one is encouraged to discuss with the Jews in Syria.

A quarter of a mile from the synagogue is a large, well-run Jewish school, teaching 500 children, including 125 girls. Most of the 25 teachers are Jews. The school has two directors: Mr Hamra, the Chief Rabbi, and Mr Elias Dhadel, a Syrian Ministry of Education official who is a Christian and a member of the ruling Baath party.

Jewish children speak Arabic as their first language in Syria and their classes are identical to those in all Syrian schools. But the children here are also taught Hebrew

History lessons—particularly modern history—present greater problems. What, for instance, did Mr Hamra and Mr Totah tell Jewish children about Israel, "In our Hebrew classes" Mr Totah said slowly, "we teach prayers. We teach religious history and we teach all about the prophets. This has nothing to do with politics."

But Mr Dhadel, the ministry director, wanted to expand on this. "We deal with the question of Palestine in 'national history' and 'history' lessons. When we speak about Israel, we differentiate a great deal between religion and politics. We know—and everybody knows—that the Jewish religion is not connected with Zionism as a political movement. Even Yassir Arafat in the United Nations said there are Arab Jews living in Israel."

Israelis often claim that Syrian Jews are held as political hostages in their home cities of Damascus, Aleppo and Kimishli. Mr Totah denied this. When I told him that many Israelis were concerned for the well-being of Syrian Jews and believed they were mistreated, Mr Totah replied: "I thank the Jews who ask about our affairs, because they care about us. I pray day and night to have peace in this part of the world to enable us to live together."

Robert Fisk

Geoffrey Smith

Where will we be when the train stops this time?

Mrs Thatcher has stubbed her toe on the same boulder as Mr Callaghan

Living in Britain throughout the postwar years has been rather like travelling on a train that goes round and round on the same circuitous route. Sometimes we get off at a station marked "statutory incomes policy". On another occasion we halt at one with signs reading "voluntary pay restraint" and "social contract". Or we alight with quickened expectation at one entitled "money supply" and "cash limits".

But it makes no difference. No matter how alluring the platform may look, it does not offer a comfortable resting place for long. Or as Lord Thorneycroft put it graphically the other week: "I have been many years in politics and I have tried, or seen tried, almost every known solution and none of them really work". Now Mrs Thatcher, like Mr Heath before her, must know what he meant.

The explanation is simple. The failure does not lie in economic theory but in Britain's unique mix of economic and political conditions. We have unusually powerful trade unions, an exceptionally large public sector, and a weakness in political authority and social cohesion. Governments have little difficulty in getting their policies through Parliament, but they can be powerless to get those policies implemented in practice.

Capacity for blackmail

They cannot secure the political consent necessary to prevent trade unions in sensitive public industries from exercising their capacity for blackmail. The unions know that the disciplines of the market do not apply to them, that their industries cannot go bankrupt, that more money may always be extracted from the Exchequer—and there are not the social inhibitions that there used to be about applying that power.

So long as these conditions obtain, no economic policy is likely to be successful for very long, whether it is incomes policy, monetarism, cash limits or whatever. Market forces may operate effectively in the private sector; they are doing so at the moment to bring inflation down quite sharply—though there is no sign that ministers have any idea how to keep wage inflation in control once the recession is over. But the public sector cannot be subjected to the discipline of the market.

Mrs Thatcher cannot fairly be condemned for failing to find a magic solution to this problem. But she is open to criticism for pretending, or rather for apparently believing, that she had found a means of bypassing it. Cash limits are not, however, an instrument for applying the discipline of the market to the public sector. They are a technique for trying to persuade the public sector to behave as if it was subject to market forces—which is a very different thing.

The theory is that the Government can set cash limits for each industry—in this instance by telling coal that it must break even by 1984—and then sit back while the board and the unions negotiate within this framework.

This may look like a strategy for keeping government out of these industries. In fact it is a deliberate policy requiring political consent just as much as a managed incomes policy. A union in a key public sector industry can hold the country to ransom in order to persuade the Government to break the cash limits just as easily as to induce the board to concede a high pay rise.

Last week's events were, therefore, the latest chapter in a familiar story. Mrs Thatcher has stubbed her toe on the same boulder against which Mr Callaghan stumbled during the winter of discontent and Mr Heath fell in February, 1974—a lack of effective political consent for their chosen economic strategy. Although this is the latest, there is no reason to believe that it will be the last chapter in the story. Other governments will come to grief in the future in the same way unless conditions are changed.

The size of the public sector will have to be reduced, the industrial power of the unions will have to be curtailed, or social cohesion will have to be restored to the point where special interest groups refrain from exploiting the potential stranglehold they have over the rest of the country.

To expect the first of these conditions to be met would be a pious hope. The Government may tinker with the public sector at the edges, by selling off a majority holding in British Aerospace, for example. But they are not going to reduce the size of the public sector substantially. The only reasonable assumption at this stage is that the principal basic industries, whose employees have the strongest industrial muscle will remain indefinitely in public ownership.

Commanding public approval

In curbing the power of the unions Mr Prior has moved with conspicuous caution. Last week's events have confirmed his wisdom in proceeding only at a speed that will command sufficient public approval to ensure that his reforms will stick. Yet these events make it all the more necessary that he should indeed move at that pace. This is almost certainly a task for two Parliaments. But if the Conservatives finally leave office without having brought about any significant limitation of union power, this Government will have failed to achieve one of its historic purposes.

What of the third condition? As Mr John Biffen commented in his remarkable television interview on Sunday, "a great deal of the whole argument for social cohesion is in fact trying to persuade people that although they may have the power to do these things, in fact in a civilized and reasonably socially cohesive society they do not exercise that power". By that yardstick Britain is no longer a civilized and reasonably cohesive society.

In his book, *In Place of Fear*, Aneurin Bevan recounts the story told by Robert Smillie, the miners' leader, of how Lloyd George broke the Triple Alliance of 1919 between miners, transport workers and railwaymen by telling them that they had the power to defeat the government: "But if you do so have you weighed the consequences? The strike will be in defiance of the government of the country, and by its very success will precipitate a constitutional crisis of the first importance. For, if a force arises in the state which is stronger than the state itself, then it must be ready to take on the functions of the state, or withdraw and accept the authority of the state. "Gentlemen", asked the Prime Minister quietly, "have you considered, and if you have, are you ready?" "From that moment on", said Robert Smillie, "we were beaten and we knew we were".

What a difference today. Imagine Mr Arthur Scargill deciding that in the public interest he dare not use the power he had.

There is no single way in which such a change in attitudes within a highly complex society can be reversed. It is not up to governments alone. Yet politicians help to set as well as to reflect the public mood. Social cohesion depends upon conventions, but politicians of all parties have given the impression in recent years that in their pursuit of power they are prepared to take more chances with the public good: that what is electorally advantageous must by definition be good politics.

Yet if politicians are not thought to value the public good above their own advantage they will not find it easy to persuade others to do likewise. If they pursue power without sufficient restraint they will find that when they get it there is not much to exercise.

"Have this one on — hell, what's the name of our latest proprietor?"

Marc

The Rowland faithful

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, Fleet Street's newest proprietor, is probably the most famous and certainly the most controversial businessman of his generation operating in Britain.

His instinctive and intensely personal approach to business has led to prolonged legal and political *causes célèbres*, spectacular and often brilliant deals and, most memorably of all, it inspired the remark from Prime Minister Edward Heath which described Lonrho as "the unpleasant and unacceptable face of capitalism".

Born 63 years ago in India of an English mother and a German father, his career began with his uncle's shipping company in London.

Throughout the Sixties Mr Rowland led Lonrho through a three stage expansion programe based on Rhodesia until UDI in 1965, then into neighbouring countries and into South Africa until the liquidity crisis which precipitated the "Lonrho Affair" in 1971.

Two qualities characterized the expansion: first its success, by 1970 Lonrho's pretax profits were £14.6m compared to £160,000 in 1961, and secondly its diversity, Mr Rowland operated by deals rather than by business sectors.

With the exception of the Congo from which Lonrho was ejected—Mr Rowland showed spectacular flair in his business involvements with black African countries. It was a flair based on close personal involvement as later manifested by the backing of the Zambian Government during the attempt to oust him from the Lonrho board in 1973 and his support and friendship with Mr Joshua Nkomo in the year that led up to the formation of Zimbabwe.

The events of the seventies in which Lonrho became embroiled in allegations and counter-allegations about the breaking of Rhodesian sanctions, rows about the ethics of the company's trading style and its attitude to shareholders, deeply damaged the relationship between the company and the City. Apart from a flurry of support during 1975 the major investing institutions have steered clear of the shares.

Yet his headlong United Kingdom acquisition programme pursued during those years has been backed throughout by a substantial band of loyal shareholders. They backed Mr Rowland during the boardroom battle in 1973 and in numerous skirmishes since. Lonrho's annual meetings are invariably packed and invariably include a series of speeches professing faith in Mr Rowland from several small shareholders.

In many respects this division between small shareholders and institutions is the key to the public way in which Mr Rowland's deals are conducted. His deals are seldom ultimately concluded behind closed doors but in front of packed meetings of the faithful.

This faith has much to do with the excitement he generates, a quality not prized by the City institutions. Lonrho's aim is simple — "to expand, diversify and acquire" — and it is always spectacular — Mr Rowland wants it to be one of the five largest non-oil United Kingdom companies.

He has an obsession with The Grand Design and pursues it on the basis of hunches, keeping no diary and seldom working out the "how" of a deal until after the "why".

"I have an instinct, a deep animal instinct for the chemistry of people," he said, and that fierce personalization of business has led to a series of variably successful partnerships with the ruling family of Kuwait, Mr Angus Ogilvy, Sir James Goldsmith, Mr Daniel K. Ludwig, supposedly the richest man in the world and Sir Hugh Fraser.

He was married in 1968 and, by all accounts, his family represents the only serious challenge to his obsession with Lonrho.

That obsession has now led him into the position where he is attempting to buy simultaneously Britain's most famous retail group the House of Fraser, and one of its oldest newspapers. It represents an almost operatic climax to the British acquisition drive of the Seventies inspired by his sudden conversion to the quality of United Kingdom assets.

In 1977, immediately after the initial acquisition of a stake in Fraser, he commented: "I vote Labour. I have always voted Labour. I consider that I am a revolutionary capitalist, and I think capitalism will change rapidly over the next ten years.

"I am not a paper merchant like the people who appeared in 1972-73. I believe in assets, in land, in factories and stores." But he added: "It is very difficult to convince the City."

Bryan Appleyard

Can London carry two evenings?

The trouble with monopolies is that, whatever the circumstance of their creation, their very existence does seem to contravene some unwritten law of nature.

Logic alone ought to dictate that London, the eleventh most populous capital in the world with some 7,000,000 relatively affluent residents, should be able to support two evening newspapers. Thirty years ago, it had three, with a combined circulation of nearly 4,000,000 daily.

Since the closure of the *Evening News* last October, the capital has been served by one, the uneasy hybrid *New Standard* selling a little under 650,000 copies a day.

The speed of Lonrho's takeover of *The Observer* may have come as something of a shock, but its plans to reintroduce an element of competition into the London evening newspaper market have been in existence for some months, since shortly after the demise of the *Evening News*.

The pressing question facing Lonrho is: what does it possess that Associated Newspapers, which lost £35m on the *Evening News* in the six years up to its closure, did not?

The paper envisaged by Lonrho would have a circulation of around 250,000 in central London and the inner suburbs. *The Observer's* presses, which are now idle for six days of the week, could handle the necessary capacity. If Lonrho acts quickly enough, the manning agreements necessary for the new publication could absorb some of those print workers who might have expected redundancy if the company simply continued to publish one newspaper.

The old *Standard*, which had something of an upmarket image, has mixed with the more popular style of the *Evening News* with some difficulty. Many *Standard* staff, who opposed the appointment of *Evening News* editor Mr Louis Kirby to the editorship of the new paper, remain dissatisfied with the product which, in the main, resembles the old *Standard* with inserts from the *Evening News*.

Lonrho may find itself able to put a London evening on to the streets for a fraction of the production costs which sank the *Evening News*. Its opposition may have yet to find its direction; there are still 130,000 readers of the *Evening News* who have not been picked up by the *New Standard*.

But will it all be enough?

Logic may demand that London ought to be able to support two evening newspapers, but if a newcomer fell short on advertising it could only turn to its cover price to restore the financial balance. And if there was one common lesson which both the *Evening News* and the *Evening Standard* learnt in their years of competition, it was that every time the cover price rose, their sales fell, never to return.

David Hewson

MOSCOW DIARY

"I'm sorry to bother you so late in the evening, but I really do need that flat", she said. "Can we meet to discuss the exchange?"

My wife was baffled. "You must have the wrong phone number. We've not got a flat to exchange." The woman got rather heated. "Then why did you put an advertisement in the *Bulletin* if you don't want to swap? It certainly gave this number." But on hearing that she had phoned a foreigner's house she was abjectly apologetic: it was indeed the wrong number.

She was not the only one last week. I had four inquiries, at various times of the day, about our desirable residence—though from the callers's description it was rather different from what they had read about. Clearly, somehow, our phone number had been mistakenly printed in the magic list.

The Bulletin for the exchange of Living Quarters is a weekly put out by a local Moscow paper that is filled with pages and pages of small ads. Its 25,000 copies are snapped up immediately. Muscovites seem to move house with bewildering frequency, but since virtually all the city's housing is built and owned by the state, can do so only by finding someone to swap with.

Housing is still in short supply and there is no pool of empty flats, and nowadays everyone wants a bigger and better place and is looking to improve his lot by zigzagging upwards through various exchange deals.

The exchange can be an exceptionally complicated business. If you just want another flat the same size in a different part of town, it is not too difficult. But supposing you are separating from your parents or getting divorced, you need to swap your flat for two others and therefore have to find a couple who are getting married or an old widow who is going to live with her children. Or you could find one flat for yourself in the right part of town, but the other depends on the present inhabitant moving into the bigger flat or someone who is leaving Moscow altogether. And that person going to Baku is meanwhile engaged in a separate long-distance arrangement with a young engineer who has been posted to Moscow with his large family and needs a home.

Thus you get a great chain of people whose exchange all depends on their all moving together at the same time. And if one drops out, or one set of potential divorcees make it up with each other, the whole deal is off and you have to start again.

So you go back to the *Bulletin*. The key to everything is the floor space. All Soviet flats are measured by the number of square metres of living area, not counting kitchen, bathroom and passage, and every Muscovite knows exactly what he can expect if he is told a flat is 22 or 46 metres.

No one can expect to exchange a large flat of 40 metres for two of 35—that would clearly not be fair. But he might get one of 35 and one of 20, if the 35 metre flat is in a less desirable part of town, or is built of panel construction (as opposed to brick, which Russians believe to be warmer and more solid), or is on either the ground or top floor. Ground floors are unpopular because of the noise, dirt and cold from the street and the greater likelihood of being robbed. The top floor is unpopular because invariably the roof leaks, or the lift breaks down, and you can complain till you are blue in the face to your local "kommandant"—the official responsible for each block—and then probably to the city council, but you will be lucky if you can get anything done.

Then of course there is the important question of whether you want a communal or self-contained flat. During the harsh days after the war when almost everyone lived in communal flats, sharing kitchens and bathrooms, and often whole families were cooped up in one room, Khrushchev launched a crash housing programme which at least allieviated the misery of overcrowding, but so many very cramped flats were put up so rapidly that most degenerated quickly into virtual slums.

But for the past 15 years the Russians have made housing an urgent priority, and have been building round the clock to ring Moscow and other main cities with acres of tower blocks and new flats. Standards have been raised considerably, and nowadays 80 per cent of the urban population lives in self-contained flats. This year alone some 10,000,000 people are due to move into new or improved apartments. The government has set a new target of 13 square metres of living space per person.

But still, communal apartments are common in Moscow, especially for the young, the unmarried or old people living alone. Muscovites complain, especially when one of the neighbours is a drunkard, but older people often recall the days of communal living nostalgically, lamenting the loss of such fellowship.

Once you have agreed on your swap, you have to go along to the local bureau of the municipal housing authority and register it all. This is most important: without a legal tenancy you cannot prove you are a Moscow resident and may lose your permission to live in the capital. Moscow is a closed city, because otherwise half Russia would immigrate here, and you cannot come in from the provinces to settle without specific permission. Of course, you can arrange a marriage with a Muscovite—for a not inconsiderable fee—get your flat and resident permit and then get divorced, keeping your resident permit. It is a thriving business for Muscovites, as well as for the divorce courts.

The local housing offices accept notices for inclusion in the *Bulletin* and do all the paperwork. There are also unofficial places where you can find ads for flats pasted up on the nearby trees and walls, and places where you can meet people involved in complicated exchange chains. In fact if you are walking near such an office, you're quite likely to be accosted and asked if you have a flat to offer.

The bureau will help you by offering consultations, and you tell them your reasons for wanting to move. You have to be honest with your prospective exchange partners: if you keep quiet about the drunken neighbour, the new tenant can complain to the bureau within the space of six months, and the whole deal can be annulled, with everyone going back to where they were.

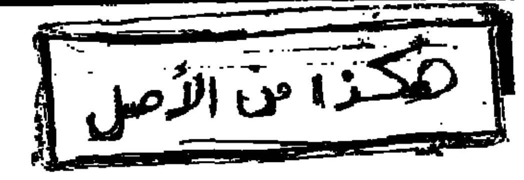
Sub-letting is allowed, but not for a profit, though everyone makes money on this. Rents are extremely cheap in the Soviet Union, not having risen since 1928, and so if you are registered in a choice district you can move out and charge your illegal tenants a fortune. Asking for "key money" for good flats is also a quick and wholly unofficial way of making several hundred roubles.

If you have nothing to swap you have to put your name down on the waiting list for a flat, and that can mean several years' wait. If you are rich you can buy a private cooperative—which are generally better built but cost many thousands of roubles. And if you are exceptionally privileged—or a simple peasant—you can live in a private dacha, a roughly built wooden house on its own plot of land, many of which remain within commuting distance of the city.

Once you are in your new home, you usually have to start on the repairs, though in theory the previous tenant should pay for any renovation. Changing the wallpaper seems to be an automatic reflex, though *Pravda* was complaining recently that there is none to be had in any of the shops nowadays. Then there are the special fitments. Nothing is more chic than a foreign-made lavatory, but it is rather a job to take it with you.

Vladimir Voinovich, the satirical writer who has just emigrated, made fun of this in *The Ivankiad*. And Yuri Trifonov, one of the best contemporary writers, has a successful play running in Moscow called *The Exchange*. Still, at least you don't get gazumped in Moscow. And you can always move out again if you don't like it.

Michael Binyon



هكذا من الأصل



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone : 01-837 1234

STAND OR FALL

First the miners, then the water workers, next the civil servants. When members of the Civil Service unions were voting in recent weeks on whether to take industrial action over their pay claim, their prospective adversary appeared confident and rigidly embattled. Now the Government appears vulnerable, humiliated, forced to a compromise twice running. The leaders of the unions were correspondingly full of assurance at the meeting yesterday where plans for action beginning next month were pproved. They can pick and hoose which to disrupt of the nany strategic points in the nachinery of administration that re under their control. The esults of the ballots and branch neetings up and down the ountry show that they enjoy ubstantial support among their ollowers — even the highly autious First Division Associaon has joined the campaign.

It is doubtful whether the pubc widely sympathizes with this vidently real sense of grievance. recent pay awards, job security id pension prospects are taken to account, civil servants may ell be felt to be enviably wellf already. The pay research stem, the abolition of which the Government they keenly sent, would almost certainly ive given them a rise in earngs far above the rate prevailing this moment among other workers. The 7 per cent offer now before them is somewhat below that rate, but better than what many have settled for in the private sector, where fear for one's job is a relevant factor in negotiations. As for the Government's plan to reduce the size of the service over the years, that has had only minor effects in practice, and would in any case be applauded by most people outside the bureaucracy itself.

Lord Soames has already promised talks about the form of pay bargaining in future. It would be politically impossible to revive anything closely similar to the abandoned system. There are advantages in a formal arrangement for assessing pay, so long as it does not exclude current factors, and gives due weight to the broad truth that a salary is high enough if it is attracting sufficient applicants of sufficient quality. There is room for further reassurance here.

It is clear that extended industrial action could quickly become both inconvenient and expensive for the Government, causing chaos that might take months to clear up. It could also affect the distribution of welfare benefits. If it did, or if national and international defence arrangements were threatened in the pursuit of this sectional claim, as seems possible, the civil servants could do rapid and lasting harm to their standing in the eyes of the public. They stand in a special position of trust, and the public will not take its abuse lightly.

Partly for the avoidance of unpopularity, striking is to take a variety of partial forms. The Government has prepared equally elaborate countermeasures to reduce its effects. The outcome is therefore particularly hard to foresee. But the case differs from those of the miners and the water workers in several important ways. The strike is not against a threat to the employment of any of those taking it, nor does it involve any direct threat to public health or safety. The employer is the Government itself, not a public sector undertaking with the Government in the background holding the purse-strings. The Civil Service is directly subject to formal cash limits, and other groups in the same position are waiting to follow its lead. The need to control public spending is as great as ever, and is central to the Government's strategy. It can, if it must, borrow to offset a shortfall even of many millions in tax and excise receipts. But unless it strenuously attempts to stand by its policies against the assaults of the civil servants, then its whole strategy will come to seem little more than a dead letter.

WOOP ON 'THE OBSERVER'

iat newspapers in chronic ficit may expect to go under , if they are lucky, change nds is a warning written on e face of Fleet Street. After e dramas of the past few onths no one, manager, journat, printer, reader, can fail to e it: the disappearance of the ndon Evening News into the w Standard, the change of nership of The Times and nday Times, and now the reement to transfer The server from Atlantic Richfield Outrams, a part of the Lonrho oup. The wonder is that as one coon / philanthropist / multitional/martyr retires hurt other, with fresher hopes and rner intentions, steps forward. The latest change, if it receives necessary approval, is welne in so far as it gives The server another lease of life. It the oldest of the Sunday pers. J. L. Garvin made it the st influential in his day. It w has an intellectual force, a eral conscience, and a width interest that combine to make it one of the best and least expendable of British newspapers. The change is also welcome if it enables Mr Rowland to execute his declared ambition of starting another London evening paper. The new monopoly in that market is not healthy, and the sooner it is challenged the better, Mr Rowland's takeover, hard on the heels of Mr Murdoch's, also betokens sharper competition among the qualities. That is no bad thing provided the form it takes is competition in quality as the means to success.

There are less encouraging features of the deal. The secrecy, the complete absence of notice or consultation with the staff of the newspaper, or even with its board of directors, betrays an attitude more appropriate to the conveyance of a property with vacant possession than the purchase of a newspaper. It was a humiliation for the staff. Nor can they have been encouraged by the contradictory and in some instances offensive comments issuing from the Lonrho side in the late hours after the news broke. Reassurance began yesterday, but the new owners have made it a more difficult process than it need have been.

A deeper source of anxiety is the possibility of conflict between Lonrho's business interests and The Observer's journalistic activity and editorial judgment. Lonrho is an international conglomerate of a structure difficult to bring into focus, extensive trading interests, and an appetite for takeovers. Proprietor and newspaper both have long-standing interests in Africa, but their interests do not necessarily coincide. Lonrho's is commercial penetration, The Observer's is to open to public inspection the condition and affairs of that continent and to pass political judgment related to a characteristic moral position. Nor is it only in Africa that the now to be joined commercial and editorial courses may collide. It will take proprietorial restraint and editorial courage to prevent injury.

T IS FOR THE SELECTORS TO SELECT

nust be hoped that the Guyana horities will find a way to ept the right of the British ectors to include Robin kman in the England side. But they do not then the Cricket uncil will have no option but cancel the Test, even though kman is not likely to play. ey will then have to ascertain ether the same attitude prels in Barbados where the bsequent Test is due, and if it es, they will have to cancel match there. This will ount to cancelling the rest of tour, for almost certainly tigua and Jamaica will feel npelled to stand by the Guyana cision, and indeed Jamaica ms to have done something to ge upon Guyana the need to ke an example of Mr Jackman account of his South African nexions. This would be an happy end for a tour that has ne badly for England but nversely is keenly looked forrd to by the rest of the West dies. It will be a serious blow the future of international icket and may mar Commonalth harmony.

The British position has been ated before and it was right for r Hector Monro to restate it sterday, for it needs to be derstood by West Indians and ricans who oppose it from elings which must be respected. e Commonwealth Gleneagles reement on sport and apartheid does not abridge the freedom of the selectors who choose any team of sportsmen to represent Britain in international events: of this basic principle cricket is only a particular case. At Gleneagles in 1977 the governments committed themselves to discourage their nationals and sporting bodies from playing South African teams as long as apartheid in sport is practised there. But it was recognized that such commitments would be differently interpreted under different systems of law. Countries with all-powerful governments can (and do) make it illegal for their sportsmen to have contacts with South Africa. This is not possible for countries where individual liberty is prized as the first article of democracy: neither British public opinion nor Parliament would tolerate a Bill making it illegal for British citizens to participate in sport in South Africa, Russia or any other country. That is a fact—more easily understood in the West Indies indeed than in Africa.

The British government has repeatedly sought to discourage British sports bodies from playing in South Africa, and not without success at times. But what eventually brought about the cessation of Test cricket with South Africa was the rejection of Basil d'Oliveira as a member of the English side by Mr Vorster in 1969. The (then) MCC wobbled, but eventually set the rule that it would not be interfered with. Those events have a direct bearing now, and they should, if read correctly, enable President Burnham to reject, not emulate, the Vorster line.

Many British sportsmen, after consulting their consciences, do decide that it is licit for them to participate in South African games. Several of the England side now in Guyana have exercised their rights as British citizens to ignore their government's advice and play in South Africa. Guyana accepted them. It is for the West Indian authorities to explain how one degree of contact with South African sport is more or less heinous than another. They need to remember that Britain is a very heterogenous country nowadays: it is multiracial, but also every part and strand of the "old empire" is represented in the composition of its nationals, South Africa included. We are not ready to have anyone discriminated against—anyone.

If British principles cannot be reconciled with West Indian priorities on this issue then, on occasion, international cricket will not be possible. Everyone will have to accept such casualties as the product of politics becoming so entangled with sport. On the issue of personal liberty Britain cannot give way.

ading industrial films

om Mr Thomas Dalby

, The letters by the Chairman Technicolor Ltd (February 10) d Mr John Wall (February 13) ess the impermanence of colour certain cinematic film, and Mr tfield, of Technicolor Ltd desbes ways and means by which original negatives may be prodted by producing three strip ver separation masters.

It needs to be stressed, also, that vast majority of industrial films oduced today are in colour and oducers of these films may not ays realize that industrial films e often the only source of archil material which future generams of archivists may have when searching into applications of rrent industrial and scientific ocesses. If the preservation techques recommended are not adop- d, the faded images they will find company archives will not be equate for study and analysis.

Some years ago, when researching to the history of industrial film r the Business Archives Council, found examples from the early ys of the century which, because their nitrate base, were too little for projection, but the black d white image was sufficiently od for transfer to modern stock d study by industrial historians. these films had been made on e colour material available to the modern film maker, the images would have faded and been beyond recall.

Much of today's industrial record is preserved on colour film: it is to be hoped that the wise and practical advice offered by Mr Dutfield and Mr Wall will be accepted and acted upon so that the images will be truly preserved for future generations of social and industrial researchers.

Yours faithfully,
T. DALBY,
4 Westbourne Park,
Scarborough,
North Yorkshire.
February 18.

Rich but troubled waters

From Mr H. David Toulson

Sir, With reference to the feature in The Times (February 23) "The oil that hasn't helped to calm the Falklands".

If Britain were to lose these islands, it would not only be the Falklands that would be lost, but also South Georgia, Black Shag and Cleree Rocks, the South Sandwich group of islands and the British Antarctic Territory.

Without a 200-mile limit placed around those islands, Britain, would not only lose the oil potential, but also some of the richest fishing grounds in the world.

Before it is too late HM Government must be strong and retain and defend what is British from military dictatorship.

Yours faithfully,
H. DAVID TOULSON,
Member of the South Atlantic Fisheries Committee,
14 Iles Lane,
Knaresborough,
Yorkshire.

Revolution in employment

From Mr J. D. Richard

Sir, What are the "leisure hours following early retirement" referred to by Sir Philip Rogers (February 21)? Every retired man I know is busier than he has ever been. Does the man exist who has done all the "little jobs" in his house and garden (and the old lady's next door), answered all his letters, cleaned his car or bicycle to his satisfaction, practised cookery enough to give his wife, for whom there is no retirement, the odd day off—and still has time on his hands? If so, let him sit down and write a book to tell the rest of us, who long to find time for hobbies, how it is managed!

Yours faithfully,
J. D. RICHARD,
24 Cavendish Road,
Henleaze, Bristol.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Debate on economic priorities

From Mr Peter Hordern, MP for Horsham and Crawley (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Charles Morrison and those other friends and colleagues of mine who wrote to you (February 25) seem to me to have described very well how the Government has reversed its policy towards the nationalized industries. Indeed, the sum of money that was supposed to be given, or lent, to them is now more than twice as much as was intended less than a year ago. And I think that the plight of manufacturing industry is even worse than they suggest; for if a surplus on our balance of payments can be secured, even with sterling as high as it is, it is only because our growing North Sea oil steadily reduces the need to export our manufactured goods to the same extent. This has the most profound implications for industry and for employment, which I do not think are yet appreciated.

So I yield nothing to them in recognizing how serious is the future. I see they want more money for industry, lower interest rates, and a lower rate of exchange. But I see no suggestion as to how the money should be provided; indeed, only that increases in direct taxation should be ruled out. So, I can only conclude that for them, at least, money does not matter.

I should have thought that our experience in 1972 and 1973, when the Government printed money as never before or since, and the subsequent explosion in prices and property speculation, and the collapse of fringe banks, was not one to forget. It certainly did industry no good then, and I cannot believe it would help now.

Of course, interest rates should be reduced, but only if accompanied by a reduction in the amount the Government needs to borrow. When I see that, since the Government came to office, the National Health Service has recruited an extra 25,000 people, that the cost of wages and salaries in the NHS alone will have risen by £980m, that is by 23 per cent in one year by this April, that the local authorities in England and Wales increased their wages by £1,830m, that is by 18.4 per cent, that the Civil Service was paid an extra £900m, that is 24.5 per cent more, all in one year, I do not accept that there is not considerable scope for reducing the Government's current expenditure and for removing part, at least, of the intolerable burden that has been placed on industry and the country.

I trust we shall not see higher inflation following higher unemployment, but that is the risk, if the Government prints too much money, and unless it brings its own expenditure under control.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HORDERN,
House of Commons.
February 25.

From Mr L. David

Sir, We have about 2.4 million unemployed, at £3,200 per annum each costing about £7,680m. We also have unutilized steel, cement, machinery, etc, production capacity.

Of greatest economic use to us and future generations would be electrification of our railways, a Channel tunnel, a tunnel linking Euston/King's Cross with Victoria/Waterloo. Immediate start on these projects appears to be indicated.

Yours sincerely,
L. DAVID,
British Unicorn Ltd,
36-38 Southampton Street, WC2.
February 25.

Natural selection

From Mr H. G. Beindorf and Mr D. E. Loukidelis

Sir, A recent edition (February 16) of your newspaper contained a report on Professor Randolph Quirk's arguments at the University of London for the suitability of English as a world language. While we do not seek to deny that English is a language richly endowed with literary masterpieces, it would seem that the popularity of English is indeed a result rather of successive British and American domination of international affairs than a manifestation of global reverence for English literary genius.

May we suggest also that there are linguistic reasons which, coupled with the above historical realities, may account for the currency of English as an international language. Simply put, English owes its position less to "native speakers of inventive genius" than to the simplicity of both its inflexional system and (core) lexicon.

Finally, if the wish is often father to the thought, we would hope that statistics which would confirm "the most obvious superlatives" of English were not the result of scholarly endeavour undertaken to confirm a preconceived notion.

Yours truly,
H. GUSTAV BEINDORF,
DAVID E. LOUKIDELIS,
Bruderhofstrasse 7/3,
8000 München 70,
West Germany.

Music in schools

From Mr Trevor Lyttleton

Sir, I believe it was Sibelius who said that he preferred the company of businessmen to that of musicians, because businessmen talked about beautiful things like art and music, while musicians only talked about money.

No wonder, when the composer is called upon to subsidize everything from the first few years of the now highly profitable commercial radio stations, to charitable functions and church services. Now Joan Bulmer-Thomas (February 21) wants composers and others to subsidize the cost of music in schools.

Why pick again on the poor composers, 80 per cent of whom earn less than £250 per annum from the Performing Right Society? Why not call upon those who, equally innocently, supply schools with the photocopiers, stationery, electricity and other aids to helping themselves to composers' works for nothing, to subsidize school music instead?

Yours sincerely,
TREVOR LYTTLETON,
Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, W.1.

Helping the people of El Salvador

From Dr David Browning

Sir, One of the tragedies of countries such as El Salvador is that, as they become the object of concerned international public opinion only when they become the focus of international power politics, informed discussion and understanding of their problems become lost in the polemics of cold war clichés and propaganda. Mr Clarridge's letter to you of February 24 appears to be a good example of this.

For centuries the majority of people in El Salvador have suffered from poverty and injustice. One hundred years ago, in the interests of the commercial cultivation of coffee, these people had their land, the vital basis of their economy and society, confiscated and transferred to the ownership and for the exclusive benefit of a small privileged elite. A direct result was the disintegration of rural society and the emergence of a landless, migrant and exploited peasantry. Subsequently the degree of poverty became obscene and the injustice intolerable. Rebellion was inevitable and the 1932 uprising was suppressed with inexcusable ferocity.

Western powers (blame should not be attached exclusively to the United States), though having the power and ability to oblige successive administrations to rectify this situation, have failed to do so. On the contrary, they have supported the status quo by military aid and through economic aid too often have encouraged local economic policies which have been inappropriate and irrelevant. Nor has the Church in El Salvador been blameless: until recently it remained silent and acquiescent.

Those groups within El Salvador who worked for essential internal reforms—and the present President of El Salvador was one of them—received totally insufficient support. Consequently the middle ground has been eroded to the present point where forces of the extreme right confront those of the extreme left; with each receiving support from their external sponsors. Victory by either extreme is unlikely to bring much benefit to the people of El Salvador. Amnesty International and The Sunday Times recently have documented the inhuman tactics of repression by terror which appears to be the only policy of the extreme right. Nor does the experience of those Third World countries now under communist rule make one confident that a communist regime in El Salvador would be any less repressive: in neighbouring Nicaragua, where a skilfully managed communist revolution is in process, one already sees the introduction of those instruments of political repression that are such a constant feature of communist rule.

The immediate crisis of El Salvador will be resolved within the context of United States strategic interests regarding the Central American isthmus and the desire of the Soviet Union to extend its power and influence in the Caribbean region. In these circumstances it is difficult to be sanguine about Mr Clarridge's prediction that "the victory of Salvadoreans is certain". Perhaps, however, it is not unrealistic to hope that out of the present sufferings in El Salvador there will at last emerge a stronger and more selfless response by Western powers, preferably in close cooperation with Mexico and Venezuela, to the needs and aspirations of the people throughout Central America.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BROWNING,
St Cross College, Oxford.
February 25.

From Mr K. R. G. Smith

Sir, My wife and I have followed with considerable interest the reporting of events in El Salvador on television in this country.

We spent three and a half years in El Salvador until the end of 1974 and knew that events such as those shown would happen sooner or later. We were involved with the Episcopal Church in helping small aid projects and a medical dispensary whilst there.

During our time there an election was held in which the right wing candidate, Colonel Molina, was elected President despite the probable victory of a "left wing" politician, Napoleon Duarte. There followed a coup d'état in which the incumbent President, Sanchez Hernandez, was captured after a takeover by the army. This subsequently collapsed as soon as Napoleon Duarte had come on the radio to appeal for calm and to support the rebellion. The Guardia Nacional returned, President Sanchez Hernandez was put back in power and Duarte fled for his life to the Venezuelan embassy before going into exile.

It is sad, therefore, to see Duarte portrayed as a right wing extremist now, since he has long been popular in San Salvador as a liberal politician. He has a near-impossible task to fulfil in El Salvador, where years of uncontrolled population explosion, encouraged by the strong Catholic Church, has left a legacy of poverty and overcrowding. This poverty has been exploited by the rich, and their inherent cruelty from the Spanish culture of the Conquistadores handed down in Central America, has ensured an enormous gulf between rich and poor.

Nevertheless, Napoleon Duarte does represent the middle class Salvadoreans who have brought in labour laws, social security and land reform.

Yours faithfully,
K. R. G. SMITH,
69 Quarry Road,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

Labour and the centre

From Mrs C. J. P. Willis

Sir, A new social democratic party will need to be more than the "threat to the Tories" that Mrs Shirley Williams claims it will be. It needs also to be a considerable threat to a left-dominated Labour Party (and there are rather fewer signs that it will succeed in this), otherwise it will, like the Liberal Party before it, do relatively well when the electorate is discontented with a Tory Government, but unless it can achieve the power to enable it to change the present electoral system it will quickly be perceived that the new party has no very great effect on the Labour vote, and that a vote for it brings to power a Labour Government robbed of any restraining influence of social democrats—whereupon the discontented Tories will return home while they still have the chance to do so.

Mrs Williams and her friends should therefore be more concerned to make a real impact upon the traditional Labour vote, rather than congratulating themselves in advance on their probable impact on the Tory vote. They will need more than this, and if this is all they achieve they will surely fail in the task they have set themselves.

Yours faithfully,
MARY WILLIS,
Little Redstone,
East Walk,
Reigate, Surrey.

From Mr John Spencer

Sir, In his article "Labour and the leadership red herring" in The Times (February 18), Mr Ken Gill, General Secretary of the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Staff Section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, gives us all clear warning of the direction in which he would wish the Labour Party to proceed: towards a continuation and intensification of the class war in industry and in politics.

I did not join the Labour Party more than 30 years ago for that purpose, nor have I been a trade unionist for many years in order to support one class against another. On the contrary; I believed that the Labour Party might produce shifts in power, achieve a redistribution of wealth, and create better opportunities for all young people to achieve their full potential, without a continuing, abrasive and ultimately destructive division of the country between two classes with separate party allegiances. But, Mr Gill tells us, "the decision at Labour's special conference . . . has recognised the class base of the party".

It is thus small wonder that I, along with thousands like me, feel unable to continue to belong to a party heading in this direction, and see in the Council for Social Democracy, and, it is to be hoped, a radical, left-of-centre party, the hope that Britain might escape from continuing, narrow, ideological conflict. This is why, painfully, I have left the Labour Party, and committed myself to working for a new alignment. I believe that in spite of Mr Gill's appeal to history, he fails to appreciate historical change, and shifts in historical necessity. His article is a sad reminder of the truism that those who believe in the dialectic of thesis-antithesis commonly also believe that they sit comfortably aside the synthesis.

Mr Gill's view of the Labour Party is complacent, out-of-date, and unhistorical. His is the red herring, not Mr Chapple's, and it confirms my judgment that the Campaign for Social Democracy is likely to be the true inheritor of the egalitarian, compassionate, internationalist, pragmatic Labour tradition I joined and subscribed to for so many years.

Yours, etc,
JOHN SPENCER,
18 Masham Court,
Shaw Lane, Leeds.
February 18.

From Miss Enid Lakeman

Sir, Why does Jeremy Tigue (letters, February 14) need any explanation for the loss of her seat by a personally popular MP? Under our electoral system that sort of thing is all too common.

In 1979 as compared with the previous election, Shirley Williams's share of the total poll in her constituency declined by four per cent, and because her party was very little ahead of the Conservatives there, this sufficed to turn her out. Harold Wilson's share of the poll in his constituency declined by 10 per cent, but since his party there was still very comfortably ahead of the Conservatives it made no difference to him.

Under the single transferable vote, on the contrary, if a party loses seats the MPs who disappear will be those whom the voters think can best be spared.

Yours faithfully,
ENID LAKEMAN, Editorial Consultant,
The Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street,
Blackfriars, SE1.

Remarkable reversal

From Lord Kilmarnock

Sir, While General Franco was alive, it never seemed to me that a Bourbon restoration after his death would prove a viable proposition. King Juan Carlos of Spain has proved me wrong.

The importance of the principle of loyalty both to himself and to the constitution that the King has managed to establish in the armed forces cannot be overstated. Had it not been for his personal influence, it is highly doubtful that the Army would have accepted that vital step on the road to Spanish democracy, the recognition of the Communist Party.

Now, once again, Don Juan Carlos has demonstrated his crucial importance to the continuance of of democracy in his country. Colonel Tejero Molina's theatrical capture of the Cortes has tended to overshadow the real issue, which was whether the army as a whole would support the attempted police coup. The Civil Guard had no hope of going it alone.

In a remarkable reversal of the role played by his grandfather, Alfonso XIII, who in 1923 sided with the generals against the politicians, the king has managed to hold the generals firm on the side of the politicians. While paying tribute to that achievement, one must hope and pray that the political leaders of Spain will be worthy of the new lease of life they have been given.

Yours faithfully,
KILMARNOCK,
House of Lords, SW1,
February 25.

New Concert of Great Powers?

From the Master of St John's College, Cambridge

Sir, The text of President Brezhnev's speech (report, February 24) suggests that he has proposed something more comprehensive than a summit meeting with President Reagan. What he seems to be proposing is that Soviet Russia and the United States should take the lead in establishing a Concert of the Great Powers.

Your report of the welcome given to his "new and remarkable innovations" by the American Secretary of State (February 24) is therefore encouraging to those observers with an interest in the history of international relations who have long foreseen that both super-powers would one day conclude that their attempts to solve international problems by unilateral action or through exclusive alliances are incompatible with detente and doomed to be frustrated.

If it is indeed true that the Soviet and US Governments have now reached this conclusion, they will still find it difficult to translate their wishes into action by re-activating either the Security Council or the less formal machinery of the 19th-century Concert. Is it too much to hope that the British Government, which together with the Imperial Russian government did so much to launch the old Concert in the years after 1815, will give some thought to what it might do to help to set up a new one?

Yours sincerely,
F. H. HINSLEY,
The Master's Lodge,
St John's College,
Cambridge.
February 25.

The Pope's call

From Lord Brockway

Sir, As a non-Catholic may I pay humble tribute to the Pope, shown by his Hiroshima appeal (report, February 25) as the greatest influence in the world to end war and poverty, and urge all, Catholics, Protestants, those of other faiths and humanists alike, to devote themselves to achieving disarmament by the renewed United Nations Disarmament Assembly in June, 1982. That will be the best homage to the Pope.

Sincerely yours,
FENNER BROCKWAY,
The World Disarmament Campaign,
21 Little Russell Street, WC1.
February 26.

Crime prevention research

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, We are disturbed at reports of an imminent cut-back of 40 per cent in the professional staff of the Home Office Research Unit. The Howard League has long maintained that research is an essential basis for penal policy, both to monitor the real effects of penal sanctions and, no less important, to indicate the cost/effectiveness of different methods.

The unit has made a valuable contribution on such subjects as crime prevention, the effects of long prison sentences, and attendance centres, despite a reduction in staffing from 80 to 69 between 1975/76 and 1980/81. The cost in 1980/81 is only about £1m, plus £500,000 for extramural research.

As a member of the Advisory Council on the Penal System from 1966-1978 I greatly appreciated its ability to provide the information we required. Its research has sometimes thrown doubt on the received wisdom, for example, by suggesting that the level of crime in the community is likely to be reduced by crime prevention strategies rather than by increasing the size of police forces or the length of prison sentences; one of the most valuable functions of research is precisely to show how to obtain better value from law enforcement expenditure.

We hold no special brief for the Unit, but at a time of great anxiety about both crime and the penal system we should greatly regret any reduction in research work. Yet the percentage of the law enforcement budget spent on research has been lower in the last four years than in the early 1970s, and the amount spent on prison research has steadily declined in real terms since 1973/74.

I hope that the Home Secretary will not make false economies and then wish, like those who do not read The Times, that he had been better informed.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
Howard League for Penal Reform,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.
February 24.

Getting BR shipshape

From Captain J. A. R. Swainson

Sir, When I was in the Royal Navy, a smart sailor meant a smart ship and a scruffy sailor meant a scruffy ship. British Rail is in the same boat and the same judgement can be used.

I assume Sir Peter Parker would admit to being in charge of a uniformed body of men but has he looked at the uniform lately? I have never seen so many cowboys in all my life. Training shoes, coloured mufflers, funny hats, everything in fact but the uniform. So the next question is, what has happened to the supervisory grades? The NCOs, if you like, who see that the uniform regulations are adhered to? The tax payer must pay a heavy bill to equip all British Rail personnel with uniforms. Where is the middle management to see that they wear it properly?

A scruffy porter, a scruffy railway, so began the premise in my letter. Take a look around at any railway station and scruff will predominate.

I am on the Hastings line and Waterloo and Charing Cross are constantly full of piles and piles of rubble and junk. The left-overs no doubt from work gangs and never cleaned up properly.

Does Sir Peter Parker ever walk around a railway platform using a seaman's eye? Where have all the NCOs gone?

Yours faithfully,
A. SWAINSON,
48 Springhead,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
February 25.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 26: Mr P. R. A. Mansfield was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at The Hague.

Mrs Mansfield had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Mr Tyge Dahlgaard was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Kingdom of Denmark to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to The Queen: His Highness Colonel Prince Georg of Denmark (Defence Attaché), Mr Frederick Kiaer (Minister), Mr Borge V. Birnie (Minister-Counsellor), Mr Hans Henrik Bruun (Counsellor), Miss Kirsten Kaare Jensen (First Secretary), Mr Bent Skou (Minister-Counsellor), Mr Jan Marcussen (Minister-Counsellor) and Mr Martin Hermansen (Minister-Counsellor).

Mrs Dahlgaard had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Sir Edward Youde (Deputy to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr D. H. G. Rose (British High Commissioner to the Republic of Kiribati) and Mrs Rose had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Sir James Plimsoll was received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Australia in London, and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Tokyo.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, this evening honoured with her presence the première of the film *The Mirror Crack'd* in aid of the Mountbatten Memorial Trust at the ABC One and Two, Shaftesbury Avenue.

The Duchess of Grafton, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the City and Guilds Institute, presented the 1981 Prince Philip Medal to Mr D. Mackenzie at Buckingham Palace and afterwards was present at luncheon with Members of the Institute at the Connaught Hotel, Carlos Place, W1.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Honorary Commodore, HM Coastguard Service, this morning visited the Coastguard Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre, Navy Buildings, Greenock, Renfrewshire.

Afterwards His Royal Highness, Duke of Rothesay, presented the Awards of the Scottish Council Development and Industry "Enterprise Scotland" Business Competition at the City Chambers, Glasgow.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, the International Year of Disabled People, this afternoon visited the Quarriers' Homes, Bridge of Weir.

His Royal Highness, attended by Major John Winter, travelled in the Royal Train.

The Queen was represented by General Sir Edwin Bramall (Aide-de-Camp General to The Queen) at the Memorial Service for General Sir Roderick McLeod (formerly Aide-de-Camp General to The Queen) which was held in The Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. C. Ryan and Miss R. M. Hall-Davis
The engagement is announced between Christopher Charles, son of Sir and Mrs T. F. Ryan, of Scarteen, Knocklong, co Limerick, and Rosalind Margaret, daughter of the late Sir Alfred Hall-Davis and of Lady Hall-Davis, of Whitbarrow, Earlburn, Salterforth, Colne, Lancashire.

Mr J. D. Fishburn and Miss V. J. Boles
The engagement is announced between Dudley Fishburn, of 11 West Halkin Street, London, SW1, son of the late Mr Eskdale Fishburn and Mrs Peter Murray-Lee, and Victoria, daughter of Mr Jack Boles and the late Mrs Boles and stepdaughter of Lady Anne Boles, of The Old Rectory, Englefield, near Reading, Berkshire.

Mr J. M. G. Barclay and Miss G. J. Knox
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Dr and Mrs Oliver Barclay, of Leicester, and Gillian, elder daughter of Mr John Knox, QC, and Mrs Knox, of Witney.

Mr N. St C. L. Baxter and Miss M. S. Slade
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, second son of Brigadier and Mrs Harry Baxter, of The Old Sarsie, Boardmills, co Down, and Margot, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Melvin S. Slade, of Greenwich, Connecticut, United States.

The Rev R. P. C. Broadbent and Miss J. C. Craig
The engagement is announced between Hugh Patrick Colin Broadbent, MA, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs C. J. Broadbent, of The Old Cottage, Buckley, Kent, and June Victoria, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs A. A. Craig, of 12 Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent.

Mr A. P. R. Clive and Miss J. F. Lambert
The engagement is announced between Andrew Peter Ronald, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Clive, of Nunnington, York, and Jane Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dighton Lambert, of London, SW6.

Mr P. Donnelly and Miss S. Newton
The engagement is announced between Peter Donnelly, Pinner, and Sue, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Newton of Gerrards Cross.

Mr M. J. L. Miller and Miss J. E. Akroyd
The engagement is announced between Martin, only son of Mr and Mrs R. Miller, of Heathfield, Sussex, and Jane, eldest daughter of Dr R. Akroyd, of Saskatchewan, Canada, and Mrs E. Akroyd of Woodstock, Oxford.

Dr D. S. Nairn and Miss D. J. Lockyer
The engagement is announced between David, son of Dr and Mrs Stanley Nairn, of West Street, Dorking, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Lockyer, of Hale, Cheshire.

Mr T. Oakley and Mrs J. Mengers
The marriage will take place shortly in London between Timothy, younger son of the late Mr Roger Oakley, of Vancouver, Canada, and of Mrs Ivan Scott, of Flood Street, Chelsea, and Joan Mengers, daughter of the late Mr Philip Worthington and of Mrs Joan Dorrien-Smith, of Pembridge Place, W2.

Mr S. Russell Wood and Miss J. Cartwright
The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Russell Wood, of Ball's Cross, Petworth, West Sussex, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Cartwright, of Bellambi, Sydney, Australia.

Mr D. R. Watkins and Miss M. R. Stradling
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Watkins, and Marguerite, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Stradling, both of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Inner Temple

Mr D. W. Tudor Price has been elected a Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Dealers combine to buy Elizabethan cup

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

S. J. Phillips, the Bond Street dealers, were careful to tell Sotheby's before yesterday's silver auction that they would be bidding in partnership with other English dealers for a beautifully engraved Elizabethan silver-gilt standing cup and cover.

The price was £39,000 (estimate £15,000-£30,000), emphasizing that prices can be boosted by dealers pooling their resources, as well as being held at artificially low levels when they agree not to bid against each other.

Dealers are tending to play safe and notify auctioneers in advance of purchasing partnerships. A case being brought against Agnews alleging that they contravened the Auction (Bidding Agreements) Act by failing to notify such an arrangement, will be heard in April and will clarify the state of the law.

The Elizabethan cup stands 17 in high, with a vase-shaped bowl and detachable domed cover. It is engraved with a pattern of alternating scallop shells and diamonds and weighs 35 oz. It bears the maker's mark, I.E., and the London date mark for 1595.

Fine sets of silver plates brought exceptionally high prices in the sale, which totalled £266,604, with 12 per cent unsold. There were three sets of shaped circular dinner plates by Paul Storr, all dating from 1815 and weighing about 271oz a set. The prices ranged from £9,000 to £10,500; Sotheby's had estimated £4,500-£6,000 a set. Lumley paid £7,500 (estimate £4,000-£6,000) for 24 dinner plates made by Robert Calderwood, of Dublin in about 1760 (two only unmarked) and weighing 372oz.

Neales of Nottingham claimed a new auction record for a postcard at £310. The card had been posted from London on June 21, 1897, to Celle, in Germany and the writer described the celebration of Queen Victoria's jubilee. The front is decorated with sepia vignettes of the Queen, the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and Nelson's column. Its new owner had sent a postal bid from Sweden; the underbidder was English.

In Christie's sale of English furniture yesterday the Manchester City Art Gallery acquired a set of nine Regency mahogany dining chairs in the manner of Gillows for £2,400 (estimate £2,500-£3,500). *The sale totalled £77,740, with 14 per cent unsold.*

The top price was £6,000 (estimate £700-£1,000) for a pair of flower paintings on glass, one signed F. J. P. Colin and attributed by Christie's as "probably nineteenth century". To judge by the price, there was more to them than met the eye.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given in honour of Otumfuo Opoku Ware II, Asantehene of Asanti, at 1 Carlton Gardens.

Reception

GLC
The chairman of the Greater London Council and Mrs Brook-Partridge were hosts at a reception held last night at the Park Hotel, Cardiff. Among those present were:
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Cardiff, the Chairman of South Glamorgan County Council, Miss Muir Tyrell, the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan and Mr D. Jones.

Dinners

Needlemakers' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies were guests of the Master and Wardens of the Needlemakers' Company at a Ladies' dinner held last night at the hall of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. The speakers were the Master, Mr John W. Stephens, His Honour M. A. B. King-Hamilton, QC, Judge E. D. Sutcliffe, QC, and Judge Miskin, QC, Recorder of London.

Franco-British Society
The Lord Privy Seal and Lady Caroline Gilmour were present at a dinner given by the Marquess of Lansdowne and the council of the Franco-British Society at Fishmongers' Hall yesterday by courtesy of the Prime Warden and court of the Company. M Stéphane Hessel, French Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, was the guest speaker.
Among those present were:
Mme Hessel, the Marchioness of Lansdowne, M and Mme G. de Beauvert, M and Mme A. Bénard, Lady Beresford-Clark, Baron Geoffroy de Courcel, Lord Croft, Lord Duncan-Sandys, Canon and Mrs J. Dunning, Sir Derek and Lady Ezra, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, MP, M and Mme R. Gelly, Lord and Lady Gladwyn, M and Mme A. Grenier, Sir Reginald and Lady Hibbert, Lord Home of the Hirsel, Lord Iliffe, the Earl of Lauderdale, Lord Mayne, the Duke and Duchess of Portland, Sir John and Lady Russell, Sir Francis and Lady Sandilands, Major Sir James Scott-Hopkins, MEP, and Lord and Lady Thomson of Monifieth.

Institution of Electrical Engineers
Sir Keith Joseph, MP, and Marshal of the RAF Sir Neil Cameron were the principal speakers at the annual dinner of the Institution of Electrical Engineers held last night at Grosvenor House. Air Marshal Sir Herbert Durkin, president of IEE, presided.

Royal Society of Chemistry
The President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Professor Sir Ewart Jones, was host at a dinner held after a meeting of heads of professional bodies, held on Wednesday at Burlington House. The guests included:
Sir Reginald Murley, Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, Sir Denys Wilkinson, Mr J. Banks, Mr J. Bird, Mr J. D. Clarke, Mr R. A. Coil, Mr G. L. Daley, Mr R. Du Cann, Mr G. A. Dummett, Mr A. H. Graham, Mr J. N. G. James, Mr J. B. Jefferson, Mr P. F. Moody, Mr J. R. S. Morris, Mr C. N. Thompson, Mr N. Waddleton, Mr R. G. Wilson, Mr M. Young and Dr Eric Parker.

Service dinner

RAF Swanton Morley
A guest night was held yesterday in the Officers' Mess, RAF Swanton Morley. Wing Commander N. Le Dieu presided. The principal guests were Captain H. Megson, RN, Director of Aircraft Maintenance and Repair (Naval), and Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. Manning (CAF), Assistant Air Advisor, Canadian High Commission.

Mr Tyge Dahlgaard, the Danish Ambassador, before leaving his Embassy yesterday to present his letters of credence to the Queen.

Worksop College

Music Scholarships have been awarded to the following: G. M. Evans (Ranby House); S. J. Anderson (Durham Chorister School); J. R. Dawson (Kibworth High School); J. L. Hawthorne (Lincoln Cathedral School). Exhibitions: S. D. Ellis (King's School, Ely, Junior School); D. N. Wilson (Ripon Cathedral Choir School).

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Rear-Admiral T. O. K. Spraggs to be Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command in succession to Rear-Admiral K. H. G. Willis in September.

Memorial service

General Sir Roderick McLeod
The Queen was represented by General Sir Edwin Bramall at a memorial service for General Sir Roderick McLeod held yesterday in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. The Rev P. D. Denton officiated, assisted by Canon J. F. O. Bown. Bishop Victor Pike was robed and in the sanctuary. Major-General F. A. H. Ling, Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, attended. Others present included:

Lady McLeod (widow), Colonel N. B. Knocker (son-in-law), Miss F. C. Knocker (granddaughter), Mrs J. Langston (sister-in-law), Mr R. N. F. Whalley (brother-in-law), Mr S. Whalley, Mr N. Whalley, Mr F. Whalley, Mr and Mrs H. Faure Walker, Mrs M. Burkill, Mrs M. Husband, Major and Mrs R. J. S. Wardle, Major J. K. McLeod.

Field Marshal Lord Carver, Colonel Lord Kinross, Lord Congleton (representing National Ski Federation of Great Britain) and Lady Congleton with Mr and Mrs R. Berry and Sir R. B. C. Watson; Lady Templemian, Lady Templer, Lady Littlewood, Lady Mullens, Sir Robert and Lady Black, Lady Stirling, General Sir John and Lady Mogg, General Sir Charles and Lady Harrington, General Sir Peter Hunt, General Sir Richard and Lady Goodbody, General Sir Dudley Ward, General Sir Reginald Hewetson, General Sir Robert Bray (Order of the British Empire) and Lady Bray, Lieutenant-General Sir William and Lady Pike, Lieutenant-General Sir Nigel Poett, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Howard-Vyse, Lieutenant-General Sir Roger and Lady Bower, Lieutenant-General Sir Denis and Lady O'Connor, Lieutenant-General Sir Terence and Lady McMeekin, Air Marshal Sir Patrick Dunn, Major-General Sir Digby and Lady Raeburn, Major-General Sir John Willoughby, Major-General Sir Peter and Lady Gillett, Major-General Sir Cyril and Lady Colquhoun.

Archdeacon and Mrs J. Youens, the Archdeacon of Dorking and Mrs Purcell, Major-General R. M. H. Vickers (Commandant, RMA, Sandhurst) and Mrs Vickers, Major-General A. E. Walkling (representing the Master Gunner, St James's Park) and Mrs Walkling, Major-General B. P. Hughes, Major-General A. J. C. Block, Major-General and Mrs N. L. Foster, Major-General G. F. de Gex, Major-General and Mrs R. S. Marshall, Major-General W. D. E. Brown, Major-General P. T. Tower, Major-General and Mrs J. E. Cordingley, Major-General M. Janes, Major-General and Mrs J. K. J. Douglas-Withers, Major-General and Mrs P. B. Foster, Major-General D. A. J. Bethell, Major-General T. S. C. Streatfeild (Director, Royal Artillery) and Mrs Streatfeild, Major-General G. B. Wilson, Major-General and Mrs M. J. Tomlinson, Major-General and Mrs R. Stavely, Major-General H. Harington (Ski Club of Great Britain) and Mrs Harington, Major-General D. R. Horsfield (Army Ski Association) and Mrs Horsfield with Brigadier A. A. Fielder and Lieutenant-Colonel P. Kemmis Betty, Major-General and Mrs A. Rickells, Major-General and Mrs P. Furneval, Major-General and Mrs J. M. Sawyer, Major-General and Mrs M. Hancock, Major-General I. R. Graeme, Mrs V. Pike.

Colonel D. X. Cyssmans (Belgian Embassy), Colonel Comte Hubert de Borrecharen de Bergeyk (representing wartime Belgian SAS Regiment), Professor M. R. D. Foot, Brigadier and Mrs G. L. FitzGerald, Brigadier and Mrs R. A. Cook, Brigadier D. K. Neville, Brigadier C. J. Codner, Brigadier and Mrs E. Former, Brigadier and Mrs H. C. C. Weldon, Brigadier and Mrs A. J. Daniell, Brigadier D. A. K. W. Block, Brigadier S. P. Robertson (RA Council of Scotland), Brigadier and Mrs P. J. E. Clapham, Brigadier and Mrs M. T. Pierson, Brigadier P. D. F. Thursby (Army Sports Control Board), Brigadier R. C. H. Kirwan (Eagle Ski Club) and Mrs Kirwan with Colonel and Mrs C. C. Dunphie, Mrs P. J. May, Mrs E. Fernandes and Miss E. Fulton; Colonel and Mrs R. H. Haynes, Captain A. E. M. Raynsford, RN, and the Hon Mrs Raynsford, Lieutenant-Colonel A. R. Callaway (representing Commandant, Staff College, Camberley), Lieutenant-Colonel L. Hart (representing SAS Regiment).

Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. J. Howarth, Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Price, Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Eastwood, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. B. Coats, Lieutenant-Colonel T. J. Bremridge, Major W. H. Campbell, Major D. L. Cooke, Major and Mrs A. R. E. Clarke, Captain and Mrs C. Drake, Captain and Mrs R. L. W. Keillo, Dr and Mrs J. Lucey, Dr and Mrs K. Moore, Mr and Mrs P. Pirie-Gordon, Mr and Mrs D. Mangham, Mrs J. Whetstone, Mrs J. H. O. Wilsey, Mrs P. Denton, Miss J. Wankiyn, Miss H. Clapham, Mrs David Lewthwaite (Supertravel), Mrs M. Shawcross (Woking Association of Voluntary Service) with Mrs Plowright; Squadron Leader and Mrs A. Rome, Mr and Mrs A. Forneyhough, Mr and Mrs M. Tay, Mr and Mrs P. Dennis, Mr and Mrs B. Garain, Mr and Mrs H. A. Woolworth, Mr K. Allison, Mrs D. Thompson, Mrs M. Zervos, Mr and Mrs J. Bryan, Mr and Mrs R. Wadlow and Mrs S. Bennett.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Feb 27, 1956

That the middle class are depressed, that they are being *destroyed by taxation, that* some Chancellor of the Exchequer must do something about it, and that none ever does; these are the truisms of the 1950s. But who are *now the middle classes*? Are they still the backbone of the country? Where, socially and politically, do they belong? A century ago the middle classes were easily identifiable: *between the big landed* proprietors and the mass of hired *manual workers.* Since then the expansion of the professions and the emergence of a huge new group of salaried managers and technicians, coupled with the *erosion of the landed proprietors,* have gone far to establish a classless society. But the middle class denotes all those people who work with their brains and derive their *income from salaries and* professional fees or from active management of property, who do most of the organizing, inventive and creative work from which the *nation gains its vitality.*

Science report

Health: Inadequate advice on abortion

By the Staff of *Nature*

A small survey carried out within a health district has suggested *that among women having* abortions, the very young, those aged more than 35 and those having repeated or late operations rarely receive adequate advice on contraception.

Those four categories of women arouse particular concern as part of the 100,000 in England and Wales who obtain a legal abortion each year. About 2.9 per cent of those are aged less than 16, and 14.8 per cent more than 35; about 9 per cent seek repeated abortions and fewer than 1 per cent obtain late abortions, after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Despite their small numbers such women are a source of particular concern, the last category having inspired the recent Abortion Amendment Bill, which sought to limit legal abortion to 20 weeks. If anything is to be done to help them to reduce their need *for* abortion some clues to their common characteristics are needed. But most records are too sparse for generalizations to be made.

Dr J. R. Ashton, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has collated information on 45 such women living in Southampton, who obtained abor*tions in Southampton or at the* British Pregnancy Advisory Service clinic in Brighton during an eight-month period in 1977.

Eight were aged less than 16, *of whom only one had been using* contraception when she conceived, a sheath that apparently failed. Six had never used contraception. Of 18 women aged more than 35, *five were using no contraception* at the time of conception; others relied on the sheath, the intra-uterine device, the diaphragm and the safe period.

Seven of them had at some time taken the pill but discontinued it for medical reasons or because of adverse publicity. Only three had received advice on contraception *in the preceding year.*

Although generalizations are *still hardly possible, a few clues* seem to emerge: particularly among the younger and older women, there seems to be a lack of adequate contraceptive advice *and services, especially for the* latter when the pill has proved unsuitable.

Source: *Journal of Biosocial Science*, January, 1981 (vol 13, p 63).

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Law Report February 26 1981 — Queen's Bench Division

Laying informations

Regina v Gateshead Justices, Ex parte Tesco Stores Ltd

Regina v D. W. Parkin Construction Ltd and Others

Before *Lord Justice Donaldson,* Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Bingham

Information should be laid by justices of the peace or clerks to the justices. It was a judicial, not an administrative or purely clerical function, and it could not be delegated.

The Divisional Court granted Tesco Stores Ltd an *order of* certiorari to quash their conviction by Gateshead justices of selling biscuits containing a filter tipped cigarette, contrary to sec*tion 2 of the Food and Drugs Act,* 1956.

A similar order was granted to D. W. Parkin Construction Ltd, civil engineers, of Birmingham, to *quash their conviction by* Birmingham justices of failing to pay certain contributions in respect of an employee under section 146 of the Social Security Act, 1975.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON, reading the reserved judgment of the court, said that it was alleged in both cases that the *justices had* no jurisdiction to adjudicate because at no material time had the informations been laid before a person authorized to consider them.

In respect of Parkin Construction, on December 15, 1977, Mr Brian Harris of the Department of Health and Social Security delivered on December 15, 1977, a written information to Birmingham magistrates' court alleging the offence charged. *It was not* certain who considered it. The information itself bore the facsimile signature of Mr Mountford, clerk to the justices, but that of *itself was not indicative of the* fact that it had been considered or seen by him. Mr Mountford had said that he was satisfied that Mr Harris applied to the court *clerk responsible for the issue of* process on December 15 for the sole purpose of laying that information, and he did not know whether the information was later submitted to him. His attention was given to some informations, *others were dealt with by senior* members of staff on his instructions. In his opinion the procedure used by him was legally correct, and he relied on a circular issued in 1975 by the council of the Society of Justices' Clerks.

In respect of Tesco, the director of legal services for Gateshead Borough Council posted on February 6, 1979, an information to the clerk to the Gateshead justices. It was collected on February 7 by Mr Cook, a junior assistant to Mr Griffiths, the clerk to the justices. Mr Griffiths thought that information — one of many that day — would have been given *to Mr White, a senior* assistant and listing officer. Mr White was specially authorized to examine and to accept or reject informations on Mr Griffiths's behalf. Mr *White considered the information* and decided that it was in order. He then passed it to another of Mr Griffiths's assistants, Mr Smith, for him to type and issue the summons.

Before whom had informations to be laid and who was empowered to decide whether or not to issue summonses?

*In 1952, apart from the Magis*trates' Courts Act, there was no clear authority for anyone to consider informations or complaints or to issue summonses. Section 1 of the Act made it clear that the power was discretionary and that the discretion had to be exercised *by the justice acting judicially and* therefore personally, since the judicial function could never be delegated.

In 1970 a change was made, maybe prompted by the *increasing* work load of the justices. The Lord Chancellor made the Justices' Clerks Rules under section 15 of the Justices of the Peace Act, 1949, *as extended by section 5 of the* Justices of the Peace Act, 1968.

The 1968 Act extention was to "make provision enabling things authorized to be done by, *to or before a single* justice of the peace, to be done instead by, to or before a justices' clerk; and any enactment or rule of law regulating the exercise of any jurisdiction or powers of justices of the peace, or relating to things done in the exercise or *purported exercise thereof, shall* apply in relation to the exercise or purported exercise thereof by virtue of this subsection by the clerk to any justices as if he were *one of those justices*".

The Justices' Clerks Rules, by rule 3, provided that "The things specified in the schedule to these rules, being things authorized to be done by, to or before a single justice of the peace for the petty *sessions area may be done by,* to or before the justices' clerk for that area." The schedule listed: "1. The laying of an information *or the making of a complaint other than an information or complaint* substantiated on oath. 2. The issue of any summons, including a witness summons."

It was submitted for the applicants that reading the rules with the enabling power made it clear that the *only person authorized* to act as a justice of the peace, although he was not one, was the clerk to the justices for that area. That was Mr Mountford for Birmingham and Mr Griffiths for Gateshead. Furthermore, since the clerk was acting as a justice, he must act personally and could not delegate any of his duties and discretions.

It was also *submitted* that an information was not laid within *the meaning of the Magistrates'* Courts Act, and was certainly not laid before the "justice of the peace", unless it was laid before and considered by either a justice of the peace or the clerk to the justices acting as a justice of the peace pursuant to the Justices' *Clerks Rules, 1970.*

His Lordship said that the Parkin Construction *and* Tesco informations had been considered by people other than the clerk to *the justices* and therefore the Birmingham and Gateshead justices had acted without jurisdiction in trying the informations and their decisions should be quashed.

For the prosecutors and the justices it was submitted that in reality the consideration of an information and the issue of a summons were normally a purely administrative function and that it was only in an insignificant minority of cases that there were materials upon which a *judicial* discretion could be exercised. His Lordship had no doubt that the function was judicial.

Then, it was said that if the *applicants' submissions were correct* the administration of justice would grind to a halt because the justices and the clerk to the justices could not possibly cope *with the volume unaided.*

The short answer was that if the practice was unlawful, expediency would not make it lawful. Although each information *must be considered and each* summons must be authorized individually by a justice or by a justices' clerk and each must bear the signature of the person who considered the *information,* their task could be considerably lightened by suitable administrative assistance. Thus assistants could group together informations of *similar* characteristics so that they could be placed before a single individual. Bundles of informations or summonses could be considered by a justice or by the clerk to the justices and, *thereafter,* authority could be given for others to affix the signature of the person who had considered them.

Until now there had been no suggestion that the advice of the Society of Justices' Clerks was misconceived.

If the court's judgment was *accepted,* or affirmed on appeal, by the House of Lords it would lead to a major reorganization in the practices of magistrates' courts.

Latest wills

Mrs Norah Willmott, of Cardiff, left estate valued at £201,427 net. She left £4,300 and effects to personal legatees, and one eighth of the residue each to the Royal Order of Moose, for the Education Fund; Royal Veterinary College Trust Fund, for "John Lord Perry" Scholarships; PDSA, RSPCA, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research Campaign, and the RNIB, and one sixteenth of *the* residue each to Park End Charge, Rhydypenau Cross Roads, Cardiff, and the National Kidney Research Fund.

Joyce Mary Major, of Solihull, *West Midlands,* left estate valued at £190,499 net. After family legacies of £30,000 she left the residue equally between the National Council for the Single Woman and her *dependants* and the Elderly Invalids Fund.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh visits RAF St Athan, 11; the Queen, accompanied by the Duke, opens new Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, 3.

The Prince of Wales visits Derby, 9.30; visits Abbeyfield Home, 160 Newton Road, Burton-on-Trent, 3.15.

Princess Anne opens new maternity and gynaecology unit of Royal United Hospital, Bath, 2.30.

Lunchtime music: Linda Strachan, mezzo-soprano, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 1.10. Philip Deane, organ, St Paul's, 12.30. Snetzler Duo, St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe, 1.15.

Birthdays today

Sir Myles Abbott, 75; Viscount Cowdray, 71; Mr Lawrence Durrell, 69; Vice-Admiral Sir Kaye Edden, 76; Sir Berkeley Gage, 77; Sir Philip Hay, 63; Air Marshal Sir Harold Martin, 63; Sir Algernon Rumbold, 75; Miss *Antoinette Sibley,* 42; Sir Charles Sykes, 76; Miss Elizabeth Taylor, 49.

OBITUARY

DR W. G. URRY

Noted medieval historian

Dr W. G. Urry died on February 18, at Canterbury, where he was born on December 17, 1913, a city which, with Oxford, had been the love of a life he described as "a *tale of two cities*".

The son of George Urry, William George Urry was educated at Kent College, Canterbury, where a loathing for *games and an ability to escape* from them on bicycle trips to *ancient sites* started his antiquarian interests. He left school for London, working as an assistant in London University Library, and studying at Birkbeck College for his bachelor's degree in History. The war interrupted his scholarly advance and for six years, as a lieutenant in the Royal Artillery, he served at home and in India.

He returned to Canterbury in 1946, as Keeper of MSS in the Cathedral Library and, from 1951, custodian of the Borough Archives, extending and organizing the archives, lecturing, assisting visiting scholars, working for his PhD from London, and *publishing* his *Canterbury under the Angevin Kings* in 1967.

Elected FSA in 1955 and FRHistS in 1958, he was Visiting Fellow of All Souls in 1968, and in 1969 came to Oxford as *Reader in Medieval* Western Palaeography and Fellow of St Edmund Hall. Here, until his death, he was *loved* and respected by senior and junior members alike. As a scholar he completed a substantial work, as yet unpublished, *The Marlowes of Canterbury.* As Dean of Degrees, he presented with splendid dignity and beautiful Latin. On Governing Body he fought against whatever he considered Philistinism, and nothing ancient or of reverence failed to find its eloquent champion in him.

This generous scholar will be greatly missed. He had old-world good manners, a whimsical *humour,* a fund of anecdotes, and an ability to make all conversational roads end in Canterbury or in cats, for which he had a lifelong passionate love. He also had tremendous courage and the strength of a deep Christian faith in his battle against recurrent serious illness in the last 20 years of his life.

He leaves a son and a daughter and his widow Katie who, from their marriage in 1947 had been, as he loved to say, "per laeta, per ardua, comes indefessa".

ADMIRAL SIR ANGUS CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM

H.P. writes:

Behind your outline of Angus Cunninghame Graham's distinguished career lies the life of a man of wide interests, great humanity and Christian humility, *loved by a host of friends.* His *Random Naval Recollections,* completed and privately printed two years before his death two days before his eighty-eighth birthday, do something to reveal his true self: they are written with a directness and sense of humour which are a lesson to all would-be autobiographers!

He had seen Queen Victoria, been a page at Edward VII's *Coronation, entered Osborne as* a Cadet in 1905, and as a midshipman in a ship escorting King George VI and Queen Mary to India was present in Delhi at the Durbar celebrations—all before the First World War began. He recalls, as a sub-lieutenant, coaling ship alongside his ratings at Scapa Flow and later taking part in *the Battle of Jutland.*

Between the wars, on the West River in China, he commanded a flotilla of gun boats, designed, with their shallow draught, to "float on a heavy dew" and provide an admirable base for wild-fowling and other excursions; shooting was but one of the many sports which he enjoyed to the full. After Second World War service, including a full *stint* of Arctic convoys, he returned to end his active naval career as Flag Officer *of his native Scotland.*

But after his retirement there *was to remain a third of his* lifespan ahead of him, and this he devoted *with enthusiasm* and vigour to his family, to his many friends, and to a *host of* activities in the *field of public* service and elsewhere, foremost *among* them the National Trust for Scotland in which he was active till the end.

Next to family came service to his Queen, as Lord Lieutenant and in her Body Guard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers. He paraded with them on every Royal visit to Scotland. (After *marching* as escort to the Queen's carriage *during her Coronation* visit to Edinburgh and being asked what he would have done in the event of an attempt on her person, he reputedly replied, "First, throw away my bow!")

What is more, he was one of the minority of members who regularly drew his bow at the mark, continuing almost till the end of his life. And if latterly his arrows *sometimes* fell nearer to the spectators than *to the clout* (on one occasion, in a prize shoot at Hopetoun House, in the middle of the ornamental lake) his good cheer and wit endeared him to his fellows, young and old alike.

No mean musician, at the estate party for their golden wedding, he and his beloved Patricia entertained the company with Victorian songs, and *with his formidable memory* he recited *The Hunting of the Snark* from beginning to end.

Loyalty and comradeship were foremost in his creed, but without a trace of pomposity or humbug; his sense of humour and fun constantly bubbled to the surface. At the whiff of an occasion, naval or other, he would be off to it, even travel*ling from Scotland* to the south within three months of his *death to attend* a dinner for those who, like him, had served in the Royal Yacht.

MR G. A. LOVEDAY

R. F. writes:

Mr George Loveday who died on *February 25* at the age of 71 was elected Chairman of The Stock Exchange in June, 1973, the year in which all the separate stock exchanges of the United Kingdom and Ireland amalgamated.

His first tasks were to make the amalgamation work and to implement a programme of major reform at The Stock Ex*change,* initiated in a report prepared by the present Chairman, *Nicholas Goodison.* The thrust was to make the staff of The Stock Exchange more professional and to open its affairs more widely to the users of the market.

These would have been sufficient tasks in themselves but the job took on a new dimension with, first, the collapse of the market with major failures and, secondly, the *attack* on the regulation of the market by the Labour Party, both in 1974. A lesser man might have retreated into a protective shell. Loveday was fortunately supported by strong deputy chairmen—*David LeRoy-Lewis,* Dundas Hamilton and Gordon Simpson.

The measure of the financial storm was the calls on Members during 1974 of about £2.5 millions to meet the claims for compensation arising from the failures and the sharp reduction in membership. The stock Exchange not only weathered the storm unaided but also car*ried through* the programme of financial and structural reform *and began its new form of con*tacts with the outside world.

Loveday initiated talks with the Accepting Houses beginning the necessary spade work leading eventually to the setting up of the Council of the Securities Industry. He drew close to the *Governor* of the Bank of England and also started the Liaison Committee *with the main users, including* the C.B.I. He took the initiative with the *exchanges of the EEC.* In short, he pointed The Stock Exchange to look outwards and to shoulder its own responsibilities.

George Loveday was not a subtle man. His qualities were integrity and courage based on a deep personal Christian conviction. *When* he retired as Chairman in June, 1975, a former Chairman, Sir *Martin* Wilkinson, recorded "These changes and a great deal more have taken place within a short space of two years against a background of trial and tribulation, and, particularly, more *hardship within* The Stock Exchange than had ever previously been *experienced*".

The Stock Exchange was privileged to know a great man. The trumpets have sounded and another valiant pilgrim has passed over.

MR W. F. HUNT

Mr William Field Hunt, who was a Deputy Circuit Judge from 1973 *to 1975, died on* February 22 at the age of 80.

The son of Edwin James Hunt he was born on October 24, 1900. He *was called to the Bar* in 1925 and joined the Oxford Circuit. He was Recorder of Bridgnorth from 1941 to 1945 and of Newcastle-under-Lyme from 1945 to 1971. In 1972 he became a Recorder of the Crown Court. He was a former Justice of the Peace for Worcestershire.

MR ROGER TONGE

Mr Roger Tonge, who played Sandy Richardson in the ATV series *Crossroads,* died yesterday in hospital in Sutton, Surrey, after a long illness. He was 35. One of the original members of the cast, he played the part of Meg Richardson's son who was confined to a wheelchair.

The Hon Lady Farrer, wife of Sir Leslie Farrer, KCVO, formerly Private Solicitor to King George VI and the Queen, died *on February 25*

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of OSSIE CLARK Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 2nd day of April, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Stephen Daniel Swaden, FCA of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 19th day of February 1981.
S. SWADEN, Liquidator

In the Matter of BIRKENHEAD TIMBER COMPANY Limited and in the Matter of the COMPANIES ACT 1948.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 20th day of March, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Ronald P. Booth F.C.A. of Messrs Parkin S. Booth & Co., 11, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, L3 9EB, or George A. Auger F.C.C.A. of Messrs. Stoy Hayward & Partners, 44 Baker Street, London W1M 1DJ the Liquidators of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidators, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 19th day of February 1981.
RONALD P. BOOTH F.C.A.
GEORGE A. AUGER F.C.C.A.
Joint Liquidators

Re LAURA NICHOLS Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the COMPANIES ACT, 1948
Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 6th April, 1981 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned Bernard Phillips F.C.A. of Bernard Phillips & Co., 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AH, the Liquidator of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are proved.
Dated this 19th day of February 1981.
BERNARD PHILLIPS, (Chartered Accountant)

Re: MICROSQUARE Limited and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948.
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AH on Tuesday the 10th of March 1981 at 11.30 in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.
Dated this 19th day of February 1981
MICHAEL FREDERICK ROLFE, Director.

In the matter of Companies Act 1948 and in the matter of THRIFTWOOD DEVELOPMENTS Limited No High Court 001246 of 1980 I was appointed Liquidator by an order of the High Court dated 4th August 1980
N. G. BHATIA, Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

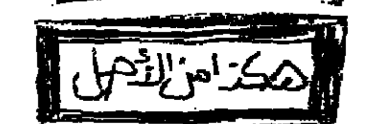
SHIREVANCE T/A SHEHREZADE LA PIGALLE Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3-5 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Wednesday the 11th day of March 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 19th day of February 1981.
N. NOSRATI, Director.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD

Notice of an application for consent ... [illegible] ... Sizewell, in the Suffolk Coastal District of Suffolk.
2. The new station, to be known as Sizewell "B", would have a capacity of approximately ... based on the Pressurised Water Reactor (PWR) system. The Secretary of State has already stated that a full and thorough public inquiry will be held into the application.
3. A copy of the application together with a plan showing the land to which it relates are available for inspection at the offices of the following:—
Clerk, Leiston Town Council, Council Offices, Main Street, Leiston (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays only)
Leiston Branch Library, Old Post Office Square, Main Street, Leiston (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Friday mornings and Saturdays only)
Suffolk Coastal District Council, Planning Department, Council Offices, Melton Hill, Woodbridge
Suffolk County Council, Planning Department, St Edmund House, Rope Walk, Ipswich
4. Any objection to the application should be made in writing to the Secretary, Department of Energy, Electricity Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ stating the name of the station and the grounds of objection ... [illegible] ... which date will be announced in due course.
5. It is requested that a copy of any objection be sent to me.
R. F. Dean, Assistant Secretary (Consents), Central Electricity Generating Board, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU.
27 February 1981.

THE BRITISH RAILWAYS BOARD hereby give advance notice, in pursuance of Section 54 of the Transport Act, 1962, that they wish to withdraw freight facilities from the following stations in the month of April 1981: SCARBOROUGH, HUNTINGDON, ABERGAVENNY, MONMOUTH ... [illegible] ... MERTHYR, NEATH, NELSON, LLANDARCY, PORT TALBOT, TREORCHY.
Particulars of the ... [illegible] ... in each case ... Road, London, NW1 6JU.



COLOMBIA

In 1912 a Mr Warner slung an 890-metre cable between the great hills of Montserrate and Guadalupe, that tower over the east side of Bogotá, and walked across blindfold. He was, of course, an Englishman. While few Colombians seem to remember Mr Warner's dangerous stroll, their own rare version of the democratic system has for some time been doing a passable imitation, writes Alan Robinson.



Bogotá, capital of Colombia, sits more than 8,000ft high on an Andean plateau deep in the interior. *Photograph: John Hillelson Agency.*

But the winds of change blow sharp and cruel across this lovely country of 27 million people. They blow from north and south, from left and right, from the militarized Southern Cone and the embattled Central American republics; from the forces of subversion within Colombia and from the nation's Armed Forces. The cable has been swaying wildly of late and the system has performed prodigious balancing fears.

Faced with the likely alternatives, the majority of Colombians fervently hope their strange democracy makes it all the way across. They cannot be sure of it, because there are obstacles that cannot be stepped over or kicked aside: abject poverty, high unemployment, rising lawlessness, widespread cynicism and discontent with the dominant political parties, along with a lopsided distribution of national wealth whose injustices would make a Mexican blink.

Colombian democracy exists by virtue of a flexible oligarchy of families that has created a control system unequalled anywhere in Latin America for its complexity. It is hard to find a minister or ex-minister whose family tree is not laden with former ministers.

The durability of the system was exemplified when President Julio César Turbay Ayala went to Washington for an eye examination in mid-February. His substitute—installed with much circumstance and not a little pomp for a period of nine days—was Dr Victor Mosquera Chaux, wealthy senator for the department of Cuaca and a descendant of a president who ruled the nation for almost four terms 150 years ago.

The Liberal and Conservative parties have dominated politics throughout Colombia's history. In 1948, the assassination of Señor Jorge Eliecer Gaitán, the Liberal Party's presidential candidate, provoked a bloody civil war between them. "La Violencia" killed 300,000 Colombians and ended with a military coup that brought General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla to power.

His attempt to create a Peronist-style regime led to his overthrow in 1957 and the Liberals and Conservatives joined in a national front, designed to ensure that the presidency would pass from one to the other every four years and that all public offices would be shared equally between them. This Colombian version of musical chairs with the presidency ended in 1970, but job parity exists still, with the Turbay Cabinet equally divided between Liberals and Conservatives.

In 1970, General Rojas Pinilla founded the National Popular Alliance (Anapo) and stood for the presidency. He was defeated by Señor Misrael Pastrana Borrero, a Conservative candidate, in what was widely regarded as a rigged election. The immediate result was the emergence of the Movimiento Abril 19, then the armed wing of Anapo, but later to split off from the party as it moved right under Señor Rojas Pinilla's daughter, Maria Eugenia.

The career of President Turbay himself illustrates another characteristic of the system: its ability to coopt and absorb talent from outside the oligarchy. The President comes from a middle-class background and bears an unfashionable, un-Colombian name, but his ability for conciliation has proved vital to the chronically divided Liberal Party.

Behind him stand the three living former Liberal presidents, influential men overseeing the fortunes of the party and the Government. But division among Liberals runs deep and even the three old party war horses gallop off in different directions from time to time. So far the strongest Liberal candidate for the 1982 elections is Señor Virgilio Barco, a former ambassador in Washington.

He is supported by ex-president Carlos Lleras Restrepo, but may be challenged by another former president, Alfonso López Michelsen. The third living former Liberal president, Señor Alberto Lleras Restrepo, has not declared an interest. All parts of the Liberal establishment seem determined on freezing out another candidate, Señor Alberto Santofimo Botero, the outspoken representative of the newer regional political leaders.

On the Conservative side, the favoured candidate is Señor Alvaro Gómez Hurtado, the son of a former Conservative president and the owner of a daily newspaper, *El Siglo*. His main challenger is the twice-defeated Señor Belisario Betancur, a populist. The Conservatives are busy trying to forge a new right. The options seem to be a type of christian democrat trend or what one Liberal observer describes as a "Thatcher-Reagan style conservatism". Señor Gómez Hurtado represents the latter.

One of the results of this tightly-controlled system is that the political centre has been strengthened and the extremes of left and right weakened. The Communist Party is legal, has two representatives at national level, a few more at regional levels, and is very much a part of the establishment. The true opposition is clandestine and subversive, with not much popular support.

The Moscow-line revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) is the oldest of the guerrilla groups and numerically the strongest, but the bulk of its members are penned up in the thick jungle region of Caqueta where about 8,000 troops were deployed to hound them in January. The Popular Liberation Army (EPL), which looks to Peking for inspiration, is in a similar desperate plight in Córdoba on the Caribbean coast.

The National Liberation Army (ELN), whose most famous member was the late, revolutionary priest Camilo Torres, has broken into quarrelling groups, some of which remain active. All in all, the rural revolutionaries pose no threat to stability.

The urban-based M-19, whose spectacular exploits include the two-month occupation of the Dominican Embassy in Bogotá last February, has gained some admiration among the population for its daring. One such coup—the theft of 5,000 small arms from an army barracks in Usaquen—infuriated the military and probably brought on the worst phase of army repression in late 1979 and early 1980.

The M-19 is seriously divided. It is variously characterized as nationalist or Christian or fascist or even an ideological mixture. At least 200 reputed M-19 members are undergoing military trials, largely in secrecy, while some 30 members of the FRAC are also being tried by army courts.

The militarization of rural Colombia became inevitable when President Turbay turned the army loose on subversion and the drug trade. On taking office he

continued on next page

COLOMBIA

Coffee

An empire of small private fiefs

It is a far cry from Colombia's host of *tree-shaded* coffee farms, perched more than 3,000 feet up on the sunny slopes of the Andes, to Bogotá with its Manchester sky, and an even farther one to London in October. Dr Arturo Gómez Jaramillo, head of the Federacion Nacional de Cafeteros, has made his mark in all three places.

Dr Gómez has run the federation for the past 25 years and is only the second director in its history. It groups Colombia's 315,000 private coffee growers, more than half of them *operating* on less than 15 acres each, and has become something of an empire in itself.

The organization has a bank, an insurance company, a merchant fleet, sugar mills, warehouses and laboratories. Little wonder that Dr Gómez is known as "Mr Coffee", a title he dislikes and disclaims. "I don't like to personalize things", he has said.

He is also known as a formidable negotiator and has been described by one member of the Government as "one of the most powerful men in Colombia". From his spacious office at the federation he has seen Colombia's coffee production boom from 5,500,000 sacks to 12,700,000 during his 25 years in office. Exports have leapt from five million sacks to 11,400,000 last year.

Colombia is the world's leading producer of mild coffee, and stands second to Brazil in total production. *The frosts that blighted* Brazil's crop in 1975 and again in two subsequent years, and political problems in the African coffee countries, drastically cut the world's supplies to the benefit of Colombia whose share of the world market rose from 12.5 per cent to 19 per cent, while Brazil's share dropped from 25 per cent to 21 per cent.

Happy Colombians thought this would go on for ever. But in 1980 Brazil did not have its expected cold spell, and the prospects of all its coffee coming on the market reduced the international price to $1.23 a lb by September. Brazil then began an aggressive sales policy, and eventually the principal producers decided to avoid a price war by returning to the quota system which had been suspended when demand was out-racing supply.

Brazil, among others, was not happy about the change in the balance of the international coffee market, and Colombia, Indonesia and Mexico did not want to lose everything that they had gained. It looked as if *agreement would be impossible.* There was a great deal of coffee, not just in Brazil but everywhere else.

Colombians believe that Dr Gómez's presentation at the October meeting in London of the International Coffee Organization was decisive in ensuring a healthy export quota for his country.

He told the delegates of the producing and consuming nations that the existing coffee agreement could not be applied in a rigorous form, because "if we don't recognize the change in the world structure of production, it won't be viable". The problems in the way of agreement would be many, he said.

After long and hard negotiations, Colombia obtained a quota of 9,700,000 sacks, or 17 per cent of the world market, an increase of 40 per cent over the figure it would have had under the initial conditions of the international agreement.

At home, the federation continues to fight for a rise in domestic coffee prices. The industry's profit has suffered from inflation, but the Government has granted only minimal price increases.

When reviewing his 25 years at the head of the federation, Dr Gómez said that in 1955 there was only one coffee-growing cooperative. Today there were 56, uniting 125,000 small farmers and giving them access to credit and technology.

The Grancolombiana merchant fleet—one of the most important in Latin America—has 25 ships with a total capacity of 320,473 tons, and an equal number of vessels under charter; it takes Colombian coffee to 51 countries. The Coffee Bank (Banco Cafetero) has 288 branches and is the third largest bank in Colombia; the federation's insurance company covers growers' risks, provides life and accident insurance, and export cover.

With government participation, the federation built a *sugar mill in the Cauca Valley*, where production will reach 73,500 tonnes of refined sugar this year, and it has created 10,000 jobs in the area. Another sugar complex is planned for the Colombia-Venezuela border zone, representing a joint investment *between the two nations.*

The United States remains Colombia's largest coffee customer, but the EEC countries are buying more than before. West Germany is the largest European buyer. Dr Gomez laments Britain's lack of interest. "There's a lot of awful coffee in Britain", he says.

Colombians are great believers in the product and drink a great deal of it; *secretaries in most offices in* Bogotá absorb 10 or more cups a day. Britain, with double Colombia's population, drinks not much more in total quantity, while Mexico with 70 million people consumes only about 1,500,000 sacks.

The slightly-built, softspoken "Mr Coffee" takes four small cups of black coffee (called *tintos*) during his working day. Between calls to and from London, *Rio, Brussels* and Bogotá, he offers the visitor a *tinto*; then looks up and says with wry humour: "You could go back and tell the British how *good it is.*"

Alan Robinson

Economy

Big investment needed

Although statistics differ greatly at times, Colombian economists in general agree that 1980 was neither a brilliant year nor a bad one.

They also agree that the gross domestic product grew by about 4 per cent, compared with the 1979 figure of 5.1 per cent. The nation managed to register a $626.9m current account surplus in spite of a $106.2m trade deficit, bringing international reserves to about £5,200m.

The inflation rate at consumer level slackened from 29.8 per cent in 1979 to 26 per cent last year, while the average for Latin America remained at over 50 per cent. Fairly strict monetary policy in the first nine months of the year effectively froze 46 per cent of the money supply and resulted in nil credit growth in the first half. By October, the foreign public debt had jumped 44 per cent above the figure for the previous year and the government-guaranteed loans rose by 31 per cent. The debt stands at just over $4,000m, the lowest among the seven largest Latin American countries, and 94 per cent of it is in United States dollars.

Heavier government spending and investment signalled that the Government's national integration plan (PIN), covering the 1979-82 period, is well under way. These expenditures surpassed $8,000m, 75.1 per cent *up on the previous year with* capital expenditures accounting for 27.6 per cent of the total. Investment in agriculture by the state rose by 91.3 per cent, in mining by 149.6 per cent, and in health services by 252.2 per cent.

The PIN analysis of the economy emphasizes that the population's doubling rate is 35 years and not 23 years as it was a generation ago (the present birth rate is down to 2 per cent) and that the mass migration to the cities from the countryside has started to slacken.

Noting the present status *of Colombia as an oil importer* (which it became in 1975), the neglect of the mining sector, the decline of public investment since the 1970s, the general inadequacy of transport and communications, and the low capacity for electricity generation, the PIN proposes public investments amounting to $22,000m by 1982. *About a third of this would* come from foreign loans.

The *main aims* of the plan are to develop energy, mining, transport, communications, health services, and to accelerate administrative and economic *decentralization* of the nation by making the regions fairly autonomous.

If the energy sector is not developed, about 40 per cent of all export earnings would be paying for fuel imports within five years, the PIN points out. Nearly $4,000m will be invested to increase installed electricity generation capacity by 75 per cent.

Expansion of transport and communications will be vital to growth and some 550km of new roads will be built, another 1,350km reconstructed and 1,721km refurbished.

Despite sharp decreases in some industrial sectors, soft drinks, tobacco, furniture, clothing, shoes and petroleum products showed better performances.

Colombian *agriculture* has been described as "gigantic" and has put the country close to self-sufficiency in foodstuffs. Last year, food imports totalled only 700,000 tonnes, in comparison with Mexico's massive imports of over 10 million tonnes of basic grains. *Colombia* imported 476,000 tonnes of wheat, 164,000 tonnes of corn and 42,000 tonnes of sorghum. Agriculture accounts for 31 per cent of gdp and employs 30 per cent of the national labour force, comparing favourably with farming's contribution to gdp in Mexico (11 per cent), Brazil (12 per cent) and Argentina (13 per cent). It was reported recently that exports of cut flowers alone brought in more than $100m last year.

Coffee remains the largest crop and the biggest source of foreign earnings by far. Production rose from eight million tonnes in 1977 to 12 million tonnes in 1979 and edged up about 4 per cent last year. About 70 per cent of the crop is exported, claiming 17 per cent of the world market and 60 per cent of Colombia's total exports.

The promotion of minor and non-traditional exports is seen as vital when coffee prices are falling on world markets. Colombia exported *$827m worth of merchandise* to the Andean group in 1979, and manufactures took up a large part of that. As the fourth largest manufacturing nation in *Latin* America—after Brazil, Mexico and Argentina—Colombia is busily trying to push these goods in the region.

The "underground" economy of marijuana and cocaine is harder to estimate. Dr Miguel Urrutia, former Mines and Energy Minister, who runs a non-profit economic research organization called Fedesarrollo and describes it as "the Colombian Brookings Institute", thinks the drug export trade brings in about £580m a year.

A confidential report by a French research body for a multinational company in Colombia states that between 30,000 and 70,000 hectares are under drug cultivation in *the Guajira region along the* Caribbean coast; along the border with Panama; and in eastern *Llanos*, in the *Meta* department. The yield is estimated at about 1.5 tonnes per hectare, but could go as high as four tonnes in some places. Subject to military vigilance and climatic variations, the annual harvest ranges between 20,000 and 60,000 tonnes. The United States market takes an average of 12,000 tonnes annually, 60 per cent of it from Colombian producers. About 20 per cent of the attempted drug exports are seized by *the authorities.* The French study estimates that Colombian drug income varies between $655m and $3,000m in a good year. "If removed overnight", it says, "it would be an economic and political blow for the system."

A.R.

Industry

Imports blamed for decline

While the state statistical agency DANE has said that industrial production rose only 2.7 per cent in 1980, the National Association of *Industrialists (ANDI) reports* that output sank by 0.6 per cent. Either way, it amounts to recession compared with the 4 per cent to 11.4 per cent growth rate recorded over the past few years.

A sign of the times in February was a declaration by the Federation of Metallurgical Industries (Fedmetal) that its sector was in crisis. The Government's attempt gradually to remove protection from domestic industry was the trouble. "Every day the market belongs less to Colombian businessmen and Colombian workers", Señor Carlos del Castillo, president of Fedmetal, said. "It is madness to continue opening our borders [to imports] in*discriminately.* The Government may be going well, but the nation is going badly.

"Even DANE's statistical picture of the metals in*dustry is desolate. It is a no* growth situation that the thick curtain of happy statistics put up by the Government cannot hide."

Transport equipment, wood products, electrical machinery, textiles, leather goods and non-metallic minerals reported sharp *declines.*

A *small* battle broke out among statisticians when DANE produced industrial growth figures of 5.9 per cent up to June last year and was *challenged abruptly* by Fedesarrollo, an independent research organization headed by Señor Miguel Urrutia, the former mines and energy minister, *who maintained* that production fell 7.6 per cent in June and 5.8 per cent in August and had fallen for four consecutive months.

The industrialists of Colombia are complaining about many things including the railways, and they allege that the Government has done little to give the country adequate transport. They complain about the ports: "How can we trade without proper railways and ports?"

They also worry about the so-called underground economy and the lack of control of smuggling and the drug *trade. They oppose the* gradual lifting of protective barriers for domestic industry and lament fuel shortages and electricity cuts.

Industry's performance in 1980 did nothing to improve the availability of jobs. Colombia has an available workforce of eight million and estimates of unemployment have provoked several *other statistical skirmishes* among economists, whose guesses range from 6 per *cent to 12 per cent.*

The official view is 6 per cent unemployment. ANDI puts forward 9.3 per cent unemployment and 8 per cent underemployment as *plausible* up to September last year. Others advance the suggestions of 11 to 12 per cent. In short, no one knows but *everyone* is sure *the situation is serious.*

With 70 per cent of the population in the cities and peasants still moving towards urban areas (although not in their former numbers), unemployment and poverty increase, breeding a crime wave in the big cities. According to Dr Raúl Borrero, an ANDI official, Bogotá is growing by more than 5 per cent a year and its unemployment rate is 7.3 *per cent.*

This could be a difficult 12 months for labour relations, if only because it is an odd-numbered year and in such years most labour contracts are renegotiated.

There are four trade union federations, the largest being the Unión de Trabajadores de Colombia (UTC), which is split down the middle with its president, Señor Tulio Cuevas pitted against another leader Señor Álvaro Ramírez Pinilla. Curiously, both belong to the Conservative Party, on different wings, and are supporting the creation *of a new workers' party.*

In February the union federations were threatening a general strike, but industrialists tended to think this was all noise. "After all, the *unions are really part of the* establishment", one businessman said.

Whether or not the unions are "establishment", discon*tent is growing among the* workers and the unemployed as inflation makes life difficult.

Dr Borrero admits that the Government is the nation's biggest employer with a *workforce of about 800,000.* The minimum wage in Colombian urban areas is about $120 a month, less in rural zones. Many unprotected workers do not get even that. Army generals recently got a rise to just over $2,000 a month. The difference was noted bitterly.

Industry is not investing at the levels some would like *to see. Industrial stocks in* the markets of Bogotá and Medellín are not attracting investors because stock yields carry a 40 per cent capital *gains tax. Money flows to* government bond issues which are tax exempt.

Credit for *industry* is short-term, carries interest rates of up to 40 per cent and the interest is payable three months in advance, he noted.

A.R.

Democracy clinging to a tightrope

continued from previous page

listened closely to General Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva, the Defence Minister, and his top officers, who told him that if subversion was not hit hard the system would be in great danger. In effect he gave them carte blanche to stop it with his 1978 security statute.

Violations of human rights, torture and murder were denounced by establishment figures such as ex-President Carlos Lleras, even before Amnesty International produced its damning report. It is almost certain that the army's free hand was getting freer than the civilian government had supposed.

Government control of the Armed Forces is a traditional part of the Colombian system. No army officer becomes a general without the approval of a special congressional committee. Generals owe their careers to civilians who must first be sure of their loyalty. Unlike Argentina and Chile, where the army is an upper-class career, Colombia gets its officers from the middle class and if they are to rise they must behave.

All *kinds of privileges* have been given the top generals by the Turbay Government and the army has responded with well-*publicized demonstrations of* solidarity. The Colombian Armed Forces are at the lower end of the Latin American military scale, with a standing army of 40,000, less than half the size of the Mexican Army, which is also fairly low down the Latin *military* league. Today national military spending, per head, does not exceed $6.

None the less, some *definite unease* is in evidence about the role of the army and the effectiveness of civilian control. In January the top three generals had their pay more than tripled with commensurate increases down to the ranks. "The Government is trying to buy them", one economist said.

In spite of government attempts to discredit Amnesty International's report, few were convinced. The Liberal newspaper *El Espectador* attacked the Liberal President and *defended the report.* It also published Amnesty's paper on violations of human rights in the Soviet Union to refute President Turbay's *suggestion that the group* favoured communist regimes.

One ex-minister was so shaken by the report that he approached Aníbal Muñoz *Duque, the Chaplain-General* of the Army, for reassurance. "I am not aware that torture has taken place", he was told, "but those interroga*tions are tough. I wouldn't* want you to be present at one."

This was cold comfort for a decent man, and there are *many like him in Colombia.* Ironically, one of the biggest military trials to be held in Latin America is taking place in an army chapel—by express permission of the Chaplain-General. The same former minister believes the military courts have brought the army much trouble and unpopularity and will not be repeated.

There are several signs that the situation is improv*ing. One Western diplomat* says the substantial flow of people seeking political asylum in 1979 began drying up in 1980. Military intelligence on guerrilla movements has improved. "The Government has its psychological measures and is getting the better of them", he said.

Indeed one wing of the M-19 is reported to be considering entering the electoral fray when the Turbay amnesty comes into force. The amnesty requires guerrillas to give themselves up, but it will not pardon certain acts which the President maintains were not committed in the heat of battle. He and the army also *spurned* suggestions that the amnesty should include military men who have committed violations of human rights. The generals termed that suggestion "insulting".

Lawlessness in the cities has led to stiffer police action, but unemployment of at least 8.4 per cent (and probably 11 per cent) among the eight million-strong labour force, and the ravages of inflation, combine to keep the wave of break-ins and "low-level" kidnappings (mainly of children) going. The slums in the south of Bogotá are alarmingly violent. Another Western diplomat was worried about the hostility he felt when driving through those areas. "One gets the impression they are uncontrolled and uncontrollable, not merely contained", he said. A British businessman is moving his office north for security reasons and he is not alone.

Meanwhile army action against the drug underworld has driven the trade increasingly away from the Guajira region, south toward Meta, from where small aircraft fly out over the flat land across Venezuela to the Caribbean *at only 3,000 metres and by* night. An American geologist, based at a ranch owned by Mr Robert Kennedy, Jnr, in Llanos, *said single-engine Pipers and* twin-engined Skyhawks take off at the rate of 15 to 20 a night in that area, loaded with cocaine. Recently one had to land with 70 kilograms of the drug on board. "The crew returned and bought it back from the police", he said.

Colombia's flawed and special variety of democracy is still on its tightrope, clinging by the skin of its teeth, *but not quite falling off.* Señor Rodrigo Botero, a former finance minister, said: "I am prudently optimistic." Mr Warner, poised on his cable high above Bogotá would probably have said much the same thing.

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Banking

A country awash on a tide of liquidity

Through the 1970s Colombia's financial institutions grew more rapidly than any other part of the country's visible economy. This reflected both the strength of coffee prices through most of this period, and more importantly, Colombias position as the world's number one exporter of contraband drugs to the United States. Although complex exchange controls were maintained throughout the period, the country was awash with dollars, particularly over the last five years. This had led to dynamic growth in the banking sector, and Colombians are now faced with a bewildering choice of homes for their savings.

Instead of keeping their money in their current accounts, Colombians are now urged to buy government bonds, dollar certificates and privately-issued bonds, and to place their liquid funds in deposit accounts and time deposits (certificados de deposito a termino). Time deposits (CDT) increased by 270 per cent in 1980.

The growth of financial intermediaries, such as finance corporations and savings and loan associations, over the past 18 years, has consolidated rather than undermined the banks' position, since many of these secondary institutions are directly or indirectly controlled by the important banking groups. The only exception is the rapidly-growing financial empire of the Jesuits, who have not yet founded a bank but control assets of more than $400m.

Control of the banking system is firmly in Colombian hands, and the foreign banks active in Colombia at the beginning of the 1970s were forced to find a majority of Colombian shareholders. The seven banks concerned saw their capital increase by more than ... per cent during their first three years of operation and their weight in the financial system is still on the increase.

The top 10 banks control over 60 per cent of the assets of 26 banking groups. Five of the top 10 banks belong to the large financial groups which dominate the Colombian economy. These groups are fiercely competitive among themselves, and observers noted with interest that the Banco de Bogotá, which dominated the banking scene for 100 years until it was dislodged from its perch by the Banco de Colombia, regained the top spot in terms of assets it controls in 1980.

The Banco de Colombia is the cornerstone of the Grupo Grancolombiano. This was perhaps the most dynamic group in the past decade, moving into a wide variety of service industries, stock exchange operations, and particularly television, radio and publishing. The Grupo Bogotá, on the other hand, has pursued a more conservative policy and remains a fundamentally industrial finance group.

One of the most important features of the 1980s is likely to be the continued expansion abroad of the big banks, with the Banco de Bogotá, Banco de Colombia and the state-owned Banco Cafetero in the lead. The latter is primarly concerned with the coffee trade, but is increasingly offering its services to other exporters. The Banco de Colombia has close relations with Eulabank in London, the Banco Arabe-Latinoamericano (Arlabank) in Lima (and Kuwait), Bladex in Panamá and the Central National Bank of Miami. It has its own branches in Panamá and New York and last year it began to develop closer relationships in Chile and Paraguay.

The Banco de Bogotá has its own trust company and agency in New York. Last year it set up a trust subsidiary in the Cayman Islands. It also has a subsidiary in Panama, and is a shareholder in Arlabank and the Banco de los Andes from Ecuador.

One bank to watch, which is rapidly moving up the league, is the Banco del Estado, which is not controlled by the state. The Banco del Estado has recently acquired the Banco Panamericano and the Banco de America Latina.

The process of growth and concentration shows no signs of weakening, despite problems in the more traditional sectors of the Colombian economy. It is likely to continue unchecked well into this decade, despite complaints about the enormous power and profits of the major groups.

Hector Melo

Top 10 Colombian banks (pesos m)

	Net profits 1979	Total assets (Dec 79)	Net profits 1980	Total assets (Dec 80)
Bogotá	646	44.624	872	66.720
Colombia	756	46.931	990	66.697
Cafetero	410	36.167	898	46.781
Popular	158	27.554	371	37.833
Comercio*	337	26.673	591	34.249
Ganadero	195	16.205	312	28.375
Bancoquia†	338	16.627	407	23.693
BIC‡	237	13.037	285	17.726
Occidente	253	10.698	792	16.008
Del Estado	43	6.808	237	14.076

** Chase Manhattan is a shareholder in Banco del Comercio*
† Bancoquia stands for Banco Comercial Antioqueño, also from Medellin
‡ BIC stands for Banco Industrial Colombiano from Medellin



Coffee is traditionally the main earner of Colombia's export revenue, but some believe it may have been overtaken by cannabis.

Foreign policy

Andean Pact takes on political flavour

A large country with great regional differences and, from time to time, internal political difficulties, Colombia has tended to be primarily taken up with its own affairs. Its foreign policy has been largely concerned with relations with its neighbours and in particular with its partners in the Andean Pact.

Relations with the United States are also important, however, both in the political and economic areas; and Colombia, like other members of the Andean Pact, is anxious to improve trade with the European Community, so that there is greater access for its products in Western Europe.

For the United States, Colombia has a special significance as the source of many of the drugs that flow into the country; Colombia produces marijuana and is a trans-shipment centre for cocaine from Peru and Bolivia. The Government has been under American pressure for some years to curb the flow, and has taken measures to do so, though the flow is far from having been stopped.

Set up in 1969, the Andean Pact is first and foremost an economic undertaking, designed to bring about a steadily increasing integration of the member countries' economies. It consists of Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia—Chile, a founder member, having left after the military coup d'état of 1973.

In the past few years, however, the pact has become increasingly political, and there have been attempts to establish a common foreign policy. This trend was encouraged by the Carter administration in Washington, which saw the pact as a democratic counterweight to the military governments in the Southern Cone.

Colombia and Venezuela have had democratic systems for many years—though Colombia's two-party system has its critics. Peru and Ecuador have both returned to civilian rule in recent years, and Bolivia was heading the same way until last year's military coup.

The concept of a common foreign policy was at its strongest on the eve of the fall of the late President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua in July 1979. The members of the Andean Pact collectively played an important part in the negotiations which took place at that time, providing backing for the insurgents of the Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional and pressing General Somoza to leave.

Since then, meetings have regularly been held to coordinate policy and new joint institutions have been set up. But it has not always been possible to overcome national differences, and the process has been set back by the outbreak of disputes between the members, especially the recent border war between Peru and Ecuador.

Colombia, in particular, has long had doubts about the politicization of the Andean Pact. It has gone along with its partners in their advocacy of democracy, but it has been less forward than some of them; it has taken the line that it was in favour of democracy, but that pact members should be careful not to breach the principle of non-intervention in other countries' affairs.

After last year's Bolivian coup, for instance, it was less activist than Ecuador. The Andean Pact countries as a whole condemned the coup, carried out by the armed forces under the leadership of General Luis Garcia Meza; and Colombia, as the host country, did not invite General García to a meeting at Santa Marta last December, held to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Bolívar's death—an action which led General García to threaten to pull Bolivia out of the Andean Pact.

But though it did not recognize the new military regime, Colombia did not withdraw its embassy from La Paz—taking a similar line to that of Britain and other European countries. It also gave the Bolivian regime an assurance that it would maintain relations with it.

Reaction to the Bolivian coup is one of the areas in which the common foreign policy line of the Andean Pact has been under strain. Another difficulty is one that affects Colombia itself—tension with Venezuela over the delimitation of marine and submarine areas. The disputed areas are possibly oil-bearing, and the issue has become a highly emotional one.

The area at issue is the Gulf of Venezuela, and talks have been under way between the two countries for several years. Last year a provisional agreement was reached between the two delegations, but when the details were published they were greeted with a chorus of opposition in Venezuela, and nationalistic feelings were whipped up.

The issue is nowhere near so controversial in Colombia, and there is little opposition to the terms of the provisional agreement. But relations have been embittered by the reaction in Venezuela, and the issue is far from being settled. Colombia has offered to take it to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, but Venezuela has refused.

At the same time there is tension between the two countries over the large numbers of Colombians, possibly running into millions, who have gone to find work in Venezuela. For some years now Venezuela, with its oil wealth and relatively high wages, has been a magnet for immigrants from many parts of Latin America, and Colombians are the biggest group.

In the past year or two this influx has begun to create a xenophobic reaction in Venezuela. Most of the immigrants have settled illegally, and the Venezuelans have threatened to deport those who are not registered. The process has begun, but not so far in such great numbers as had been feared.

Another border dispute is with Nicaragua. In 1928 Colombia and Nicaragua signed and ratified a treaty designed to settle a dispute which dated back to Spanish colonial days, by which Nicaragua acknowledged Colombian sovereignty over some small islands, Providencia and San Andrés, that lie between their two coasts.

Last year, however, the new revolutionary government of Nicaragua announced that the treaty had been accepted under duress, as a result of pressure from the United States, and that Nicaragua still claimed the islands. Colombia refused to accept this and the issue remains unresolved.

Both Colombia and Venezuela are concerned about the fighting between Ecuador and Peru, because of the threat to the cohesion of the Andean Pact. When fighting broke out President Júlio César Turbay Ayala of Colombia and President Luis Herrera Campins of Venezuela sent a letter to the two countries offering to help to resolve the dispute; Ecuador accepted but Peru refused.

Peter Strafford

Contraband

Drugs no drug on market

Colombia has something of a love-hate relationship with the world of illicit drugs. As a major grower and exporter of high grade cannabis the country has long been under pressure from the United States to control its black economy. On the other hand it is difficult to stifle a commodity which some estimate to be a larger export than coffee.

To complicate matters Colombia, because of its geographical position and experience in the drug trade, has also become an important transit point for the flow of fashionable cocaine from other South American countries and the drug is challenging cannabis for the attention of the drug market.

In essence the problems of Colombia are those of many countries in the Third World which find they have a commodity which can bolster their economies but also earns them the disapprobation of Western nations.

Were it not for the growing Western market in illicit drugs in the 1960s and 1970s Colombia would not be on the horns of a dilemma since the crop has expanded to meet that demand. Until the early 1970s cannabis plantations were small and Colombian society tended to treat the drug with great suspicion.

The country, however, was the centre of a lucrative smuggling trade to and from the United States during the coffee boom of the early 1970s. As a result of this trade American smugglers are believed to have introduced the seeds of Mexican cannabis to produce a new strain bred with the indigenous plant. The result was cannabis with a high concentration of the active ingredient.

The timing was felicitious for there are those who mark the rise of the Colombian trade as the point at which the Americans successfully brought the traffic from the West Indies under control. Certainly it is a trade which has rapidly expanded.

In 1979 it was estimated by one source that 85,000 acres were under cultivation, producing 15,000 tonnes a year. Two thirds of this crop is exported with 85 per cent going to the United States. Inside Colombia thousands of families rely on the crop in some way for their livelihood and at the top are the narimberos, the dealers.

Both the Mafia in the United States and a Colombian variation are now said to be in control of the trade. Miami has become a major centre for dealing and much of the produce is moved into the eastern seaboard.

Only 20 per cent of the money generated is thought to return or remain in Colombia but it is enough to produce the usual tales of corruption. One regional governor resigned last year while local policemen are said to be given the choice of bribes 33 times their normal wages or an untimely death.

Pushed by the United States, the Colombian Government has tried a number of measures including military columns in wilder areas. The result was that, although there were successes such as the devastation of a valley of cannabis reported to be 50 miles long, the occupation of the troops brought opposition to their methods and eventual withdrawal. It has been estimated that full controls would cost £150m in armaments and equipment.

At the same time the Government is mindful of the economic potential underfoot. Banks have a special window at which small farmers can cash dollars into pesos with no questions asked. Two years ago Colombia's leading federation of industrialists and financiers seriously put forward the possibility of legalization, arguing the economic and social advantages which could accrue.

Failure to legitimize the trade might help to lead to social instability and the sort of governments so often seen elsewhere in South America. Although the Government has not gone as far as legalization it is now prepared to "socialize" the income from the drug trade.

This appears to mean accepting what is de facto if not de jure.

This applies to cocaine, as well. Observers believe that the cannabis crop is in decline, partly because of bad harvests and partly because of the attractions of the money to be made from cocaine.

Countries such as Bolivia which funnelled crops through Colombia are now said to be improving their own trade routes and pushing the Colombian gangs out. In response the Colombians are reported to be increasing their own output. Last year government forces uncovered an advanced processing plant.

The trade routes are already established. In New York two years ago police investigators uncovered a transport system using Colombian freighters. Cargoes were dumped overboard on the way in at a pre-determined point and, later, swimmers would go out to recover the drugs. Smuggling rings into Europe have been established for some years.

Whether Colombia can benefit from this trade—juggling the profits against the international pressure for controls—remains to be seen. There is little doubt that the new Reagan administration in Washington will want to adopt a tough policy on drugs. That can only mean fresh pressure. Attitudes towards cannabis have relaxed in many countries but cocaine is still regarded, rightly or wrongly, on a par with heroin.

Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Mining

Poised for great leap forward into age of coal

When a Colombian tells you the future looks black he is generally referring to coal, not politics. This country is sitting on vast reserves of high-quality coal, by far the largest in Latin America, still mostly unquantified and in many places incapable of being mined, because of deficient support services and inadequate transport.

Colombian mining tradition, which centred on gold and emeralds, is turning to coal, nickel and eventually uranium. There are brighter prospects for phosphate rock, bauxite and copper. The Government will spend $24m this year to boost mining development and arrest the decline of a sector whose contribution to the gross domestic product fell to 1 per cent at the beginning of the 1970s.

Now Colombia is poised for its great leap forward into coal power. Carbocol, the parastatal coal company, and Intercor, an Exxon subsidiary, are jointly developing the north block of the huge El Cerrajón coal deposit in the Guajira Department, which contains an estimated 3,000 million tonnes of low sulphur, low ash, and steam coal, generating 14,000 British thermal units. The project will consist of two open cast sites, to be excavated down to 200 metres, at an estimated cost of $3,000m. Production will be on a tremendous scale, reaching 15 million tonnes a year in its first phase and possibly 25 million tonnes by 1990.

The north block project will be self-contained, with a $405m railway, stretching 50 km from the mine to the port of Bahia Portete on the Caribbean coast, where a $410m port improvement programme is under way. A highway along the same route will be ready later this year.

The Carbocol-Exxon project at El Cerrajón caused a furious debate throughout Colombia, first because the foreign firm had 50 per cent of the nation's biggest coal mine and second because most of the coal would be exported. Colombia lost its self-sufficiency in oil in 1975. "Don't export our coal reserves as you did the oil", the critics told the Government. However, there were assurances that the first two million tonnes or so of production would feed power generation plants at Cartagena, Barranquilla and a new one planned for El Cerrajón itself. The debate then died down.

Meanwhile, at Montelibano in the Department of Córdoba, the Cerro Matoso production complex plans to extract ferronickel by 1982, reaching a production of 22,585 tons by 1984.

The Cerro Matoso nickel mine is a joint venture in which Billiton Overseas, a British wholly-owned subsidiary of Shell Petroleum, has 35 per cent, the Hanna Mining Company of Delaware 20 per cent, and the Colombian Government holds the remainder of the stock.

Billiton Metalsand Ores International, a Dutch company within the Royal Dutch Shell group, has agreed to purchase production up to 22,500 tonnes a year.

Mr Malcolm King, the company's vice-president, put the capital cost of exploration at $394m. Shell itself, which seconded Mr King to the project, committed $200m. Further financing came from the World Bank, the United States Export-Import Bank and a private syndicate headed by the Chase Manhattan Bank, he said. Sales income will touch $180m a year.

Uranium development in Colombia is controlled by a state agency, Coluranio. Involved in uranium exploration programmes by association contracts with Coluranio are Enusa of Spain, Minatome of France and the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuels Development Corporation of Japan. Exploration has shown the strong possibility of usable uranium in several places in Santander, Cundinamarca and Meta. Colombia is split by three great mountain ranges and "there is uranium all over those mountains", the Swiss expert said. The Government has not yet defined the commercially - exploitable deposits.

Among the projects being pushed by the Parastatal mining agency, Ecominas, are the mining of phosphoric rock deposits of about 19 million tonnes in Boyacá and nine million tonnes in Bardinata, north of Santander.

Gold mines are scattered all over the country, but the largest production comes from the department of Antioquia, which accounted for about 214,000 oz of the nation's total output of 246,445 oz in 1979. In Caldas, there are possible reserves of three million tonnes and preparations are under way to start mining. The area produces about 6,000 oz a year. Silver output is a by-product of gold mining and is running at about 75,000 oz annually. All gold and silver bullion is purchased by the Colombian National Bank, by law.

There are long term prospects in copper at Pantanos-Pegadorcito in the department of Antioquia, Mocoa in Putamayo and Alisales in the same location.

About 375 million tonnes of bauxite have been found in and around the Cauca Valley, but preliminary exploratory work still continues. The country's first asbestos mine went into production in 1980 in Antioquia, with a capacity of 20,000 tonnes a year.

Colombia is short of iron ore reserves, has only one productive iron ore mine and an associated small integrated steel works at Paz del Rio in Boyacá. The plant produces 300,000 tonnes a year of iron and steel. Smaller operations in Bogotá, Medellín and Cali make steel from scrap, using electric arc furnaces.

Colombian emeralds come mainly from the Muzo mines in Boyacá, but the Coscuez Mines near by are catching up as an important emerald mining centre. Production figures for 1979 are reported to be 894,800 carats. The United States purchased $10.51m-worth of the output and Japan acquired emeralds worth $28.39m.

Alan Robinson

Colombia
Main roads
Railways
Airports
300 miles



"Guajeros" at Muzo wait hoping to find emeralds which have escaped the company employees.

Energy

Oil firms are drilling holes all over the countryside

Colombia ceased to be self-sufficient in petroleum in 1975 and having fallen from that state of economic grace is now striving to regain it. Foreign oil companies believe that the prospects are good, so good that they are drilling holes all over the countryside.

But if the prospects for more petroleum are promising, those based on the nation's hydroelectric, coal and natural gas potential are even more so. "Colombia could be in for an energy boom", according to Mr John Collins, Chairman and Managing Director of Shell Colombia.

Dr Luis Enrique Giraldo Neira, Vice-Minister of Mines and Energy, gave some figures: crude oil production is 122,947 barrels a day, leaving a daily deficit of 50,000 barrels. "We will make up that deficit by 1985", he said. Imports of crude oil are equivalent to 19 per cent of consumption, while Colombia must also import 35 per cent of the petrol it uses. Proved reserves of crude amount to 680 million barrels, but only 25 per cent of the country's 716,000 sq km of sedimentary basins have been explored, "and superficially at that".

Installed capacity for electricity generation has been growing at 9 per cent a year for the past 10 years, Dr Giraldo said. Installed capacity in per capita terms was 162MW last year, 72 per cent in hydroelectric plants and 28 per cent in oil or coal-fed power stations. The potential hydroelectric capacity of the country is 93,000 MW, "which would meet our demand until the start of the next century".

Colombia's vast coal seams —80 per cent of estimated reserves—are in the huge El Cerrajón zone in the north of the country. They are expected to displace natural gas in coastal areas. Even with low-level technology, coal mining has been growing at the rate of 5.1 per cent a year since 1970, to total output of 4,900,000 tonnes in 1979. Coal will feed three of the nation's main power stations, with about two million tonnes earmarked for that purpose from El Cerrajón.

Natural gas is abundant, with known reserves of 4,716 million cu ft. Surprisingly, wood accounts for about 30 per cent of the primary energy consumption, with nearly 12 million cu metres used in 1979, mainly for cooking in rural areas and on the fringe of the bigger cities.

In spite of the relative abundance of energy resources, a severe shortage of official funds has prevented their satisfactory development. Petroleum is still the most used resource, although oil reserves are comparatively low, while the immense hydroelectric resources contribute less than any of the other energy sources in Colombia.

So far the best answer to the financing problem has been the participation contracts between the parastatal oil agency Ecopetrol and a score of multinational oil companies. The multinationals put up the risk capital, come in and drill, and Ecopetrol only puts up its share of the investment when oil or gas is struck. "The Government is very dynamic in this respect", Mr Ray O'Mara of Anson Drilling said. The association contracts with foreigners have been very successful and there are many applicants. Twenty or 30 firms are waiting in line and every week another company is talking to the Government. In these circumstances, the problem is now a shortage of rigs.

Dr Giraldo also emphasizes the convenience of the contracts to both sides. "Colombia's association contracts have been held up by the United Nations as an example for other developing nations", he said.

The enthusiasm of the foreign oil firms is justified, according to Señor Miguel Urrutia, the former mines and energy minister. "In 1976 the oil companies started to return to Colombia. There have been small finds, but no really significant new fields in the past two years. However, the signs are very promising" he said.

Shell is one of the companies that sold out its oil interests, divesting itself of petrol stations, which it sold to Mobil in 1969 and passing over its wells to Ecopetrol in 1974. Mr John Collins of Shell says that the firm has no plans to re-enter the petroleum sector, but is interested in coal, nickel and chemicals. "The chances of finding more crude oil are beginning to look good", he said. "The coal reserves and the possibilities for hydroelectric expansion, plus a mining industry that will be very useful in the future, make Colombia attractive to business."

Señor Javier Fernández, the Vice-Minister of Finance, is sure that Colombia will become self-sufficient for petroleum in the near future. "Information is that we are well on the way", he said. According to Mr Ray O'Mara, oil is occurring at greater depths than is usual in petroleum exploration.

"In Arauca they drilled down nearly 23,000ft, in some places they have gone down about 25,000ft", he said. "Crude is rare at that depth."

Recent oil and gas strikes have been made at several places close to the Venezuelan border, mostly of heavy oil. "Colombia has no refinery capable of upgrading it at the moment", Mr O'Mara said. One such strike was at Campo Puerto in Boyacá department and "that could turn into a big one", he said. He added: "Geologically speaking, much of Colombia is an unknown quantity."

Meanwhile, the Government is pursuing studies into the possibilities of solar energy, wind power, biogas and alcohol as a substitute for petrol. Bilateral cooperation pacts in these areas have been signed with West Germany, East Germany, Switzerland, Italy and other nations.

A.R.

Robin Greer describes the population centres and discusses historical United Kingdom links with the country

Conquistadores' missionary forts are now modern cities

Like islands set in a sea of unspoilt countryside, the cities of Colombia combine variety with antiquity. Most were founded by the Spanish conquistadores almost as missionary forts to control and civilize the surrounding areas. Their plazas, with their dominant cathedrals, which survive in most Colombian cities, maintain a strong link with the colonial past.

Deep in the interior, on a high Andean plateau, at an altitude of 8,660ft, sits the capital, Bogotá. Founded in 1537 by Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada during his search for El Dorado, the town was originally called Santa Fe de Bogotá. Just outside Bogotá is the lake of Guatavita, which is still reputed to be rich with golden offerings.

Tucked under the mountains, Bogotá stretches north and south from its old colonial centre. Though now surrounded by skyscrapers, La Candelaria, with its steep quaint streets bordered by appealing two-storied whitewashed houses, is being painstakingly restored and maintained.

The south of Bogotá belongs mainly to the poorer people and has its shanty towns housing the destitute, whereas the north is the enclave of the middle classes and the rich. It is in the north of Bogotá that you see the evidence of Colombia's steady development. Handsome new houses with well-tended gardens line wide streets along which are driven the very latest in cars. The shops stock almost everything that the well-travelled Colombians could desire, and fine restaurants and pleasing night clubs abound.

Tradition hangs heavily in Bogotá as elsewhere in Colombia. Although many may have fallen on hard times, families that carry old noble names are respected and emulated. The true Bogatáno carries himself like an old-fashioned English gentleman and has surprisingly similar traditions. Courtesy, ritual and hospitality are as important as maintaining appearances. A tradition of literature, especially poetry, is combined with a Spanish considered the purest and clearest in Latin America.

Bogotá, and Colombia in general, has had a great deal of adverse publicity about theft and violence. The violence is usually confined to domestic squabbles amongst the groups of emerald merchants or drug dealers. Unless a foreigner is foolish enough to meddle, there is little reason to see more than newspaper reports of these incidents.

In Bogotá's downtown area, where most hotels and the impressive Gold Museum are located, there is always a risk of theft. This can usually be avoided by not wearing jewelry, watches or cameras. A visitor would also be wise never to do business on the street; the more tempting the offer the greater the chance of trickery. It is the Colombians themselves who suffer most at the hands of the lightfingered. Thefts of cars and car-parts make vehicle ownership a constant worry.

Bogotá and its surroundings are green with frequent rain. There are many overcast days and a mean temperature of 65°F, not unlike an English early summer. In Colombia, the climate and temperature depend entirely on altitude, the proximity to the equator evening-out most seasonal differences.

An almost ideal climate is enjoyed by Colombia's second city. Medellín, set in another—slightly lower—valley, Medellín enjoys a perpetual spring and prides itself on the variety and abundance of orchids it produces. The people of Medellín and its surrounding department, Antioquia, are known as the most industrious in all Colombia. They have made their city the centre for textiles and many other industries, and have taken their enterprise throughout the country. Wherever there is business, the Antioqueño, with his amusingly burred accent, may be found at all levels. Medellín is also famed for its love of the tango.

Farther to the south, the yet warmer climate of Cali echoes to the rhythms of the *salsa*. Cali, an important agricultural and trading centre, has its colonial past but the city is mainly much more modern. The annual *feria* or carnival, which draws visitors from many parts, typifies a fun-loving, relaxed attitude to life, though balanced by a reasonable degree of hard work. Cali also has some of the handsomest women in Colombia.

Not far from Cali, up in the mountains, close to the border with Ecuador, is Popayán. This, perhaps the most historic city of Colombia, was the first capital of the Spanish province of Nueva Grenada. Though today it is a somewhat sleepy backwater, rich with beautiful old colonial houses and monasteries, it is from Popayán that most of the presidential and traditional families of Colombia hail.

At the very southern extreme, below the equator, lies Leticia. An Amazon river port, with a few small naval vessels, it is a curious frontier town perched on the borders of both Peru and Brazil, and is used by many as a staging point on their way down the Amazon or when making short jungle tours.

Over 1,100 miles away on the northern Caribbean coast is Cartagena. Comparisons are sometimes made with Bahia in Brazil, usually in favour of Cartagena. Dominated by the San Felipe castle, built to the classical designs of Vauban, the old city is still surrounded by thick walls. The three-storied houses with wooden balconies jutting out into the streets and with lush interior patios provide a cool bastion against the hot, heavy humidity.

The streets and markets teem with colourful life and are a joy to walk through. Many of the elegant houses are being lovingly restored and some are now restaurants of a very high standard. Most of the hotels are on the adjoining peninsula of Bocagrande and are generally very modern and good, although, perhaps, the most appealing is the Hotel Caribe. Its old-fashioned charms outweigh any drawbacks.

Farther along the coast is the largest of the coastal cities, Barranquilla. Set close to the mouth of the River Magdalena, once the country's main thoroughfare. Barranquilla is an important centre of industrial and commercial life. However, it is not an especially attractive city for the visitor.

More pleasing is the other main city of the coast, Santa Marta. Blessed with a dry desert-like climate, Santa Marta, which was founded in 1525, is one of the most popular resorts of Colombia. Besides its own golden sands, Santa Marta offers neighbouring attractions such as the unspoilt fishing village of Taganga and the Tayrona National Park, with its varied beaches, dense rich vegetation and exotic birds and butterflies.

The rugged terrain of Colombia forced the people into the air and Colombia had the first civil airline of Latin America in 1919. Even today air travel is relatively inexpensive and efficient. Hotels are generally good and fairly priced, with the food of fine quality and, not being highly spiced, most acceptable to the English palate.



The people of Medellín are the country's most industrious, but these youngsters in the city know how to enjoy their leisure.

They dreaded Drake's drum but liked the British

Tales of Sir Francis Drake, the buccaneers and their exploits on the Spanish Main still stir the hearts of every romantic Englishman, calling up a golden era of valour and glory. But the actual location of the Spanish Main is generally less well known.

The area which was called the Spanish Main is the northern Caribbean coast of South America, stretching from Portobelo and Nombre de Dios in the west to Trinidad in the east. Today, Portobelo is in Panama, and the rest of the coast is shared by Venezuela and Colombia. The Colombian coastal towns of Cartagena, Santa Marta and Río de la Hacha loom large in the annals.

The great wealth that Spain was extracting from its American colonies and shipping through the Caribbean ports irresistibly drew the English sailors. The Spanish were unwilling to share their treasure. So a pattern was set of the Spanish refusing to trade, followed by the English attacking and taking the towns.

Sir John Hawkins and his sometime lieutenant, Sir Francis Drake, took Río de la Hacha and Santa Marta many times, Cartagena usually being a harder nut. Santa Marta proved so easy that Drake had to put on a show of capturing the town just to save the governor's face. After the taking of these towns there were often fine banquets as the Spanish colonists and the English sailors entertained each other.

Attacks on the Colombian mainland continued into the eighteenth century. The key to the control of Caribbean trade was perceived as Cartagena, but it proved difficult to take.

In 1739, Sir Edward Vernon had successfully captured Portobelo; so, in 1741, he proceeded to attack Cartagena with 190 ships and 27,000 men. But the town remained impregnable, and Vernon decided to lay siege. The strong defences, internal dissensions in the attacking forces, and, most importantly, their devastation by yellow fever, led to failure. Serving as a surgeon's mate, Tobias Smollett recounts the experiences of the soldiers in his novel *Roderick Random*.

After many months the heavily depleted forces abandoned the siege and withdrew. Cartagena counted this as a great victory, and for its triumph was awarded the still-used name of the Heroic City.

The contact with Britain that is best remembered in Colombia occurred during Simón Bolívar's Wars of Independence, at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The Napoleonic wars had loosened Spain's control of its colonies, and poverty and bad government had left the people resentful. Bolivar and his associates resolved to take advantage of this situation.

However, when Spain sent 10,000 troops to reassert its weakened authority, Bolívar appealed to his London agent, Luis Méndez, to raise a force of volunteers. To recently discharged servicemen and to the British merchants it was a fine opportunity. In a three-year period from 1817, some 5,000 English and Irish volunteers left for South America. Shipwreck, disease and desertion took a heavy toll, and a much smaller number actually arrived.

After initial but temporary successes along the coasts, Bolivar became convinced that the key was the capture of Bogotá. So, in 1818, he marched from Venezuela through the jungle and plains up into the high snow-covered plateau to attack Bogotá. His troops were mainly untrained irregulars, but the leaven were his British volunteers.

"The Dragoons of the Guard of Bolivar" were commanded by Colonel Rooke, and two rifle regiments were led by the British officers, Colonel Arthur Sandes and Major J. Macintosh. Most famous of all was the small all-British unit of 16 officers and 130 other ranks, known as the British Legion. At the decisive battle of Boyacá, it was a British bayonet charge that broke the defending forces and gave Bolívar his prize, Bogotá. The volunteers went on to help Bolivar to complete his campaigns.

The British assistance was not forgotten after independence, and for a while the new Republic of Gran Colombia accorded special privileges to the British, by way of thanks.

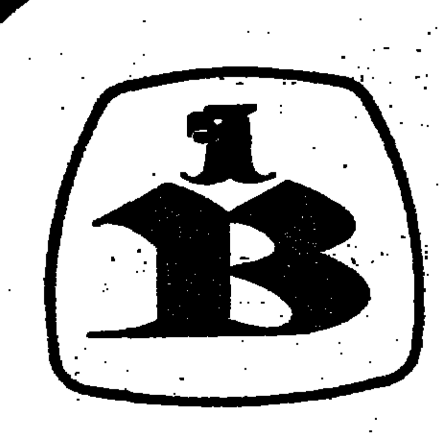
The prospect of this vast new country with huge possibilities excited many people. Jeremy Bentham, in particular, was so enthused by Gran Colombia that he advocated a strengthening of the links with Britain with mass emigration. Even today, some Colombians regret that this immigration did not occur, and that Britain had little direct influence on the country. At least, they say, we would have had decent railways.

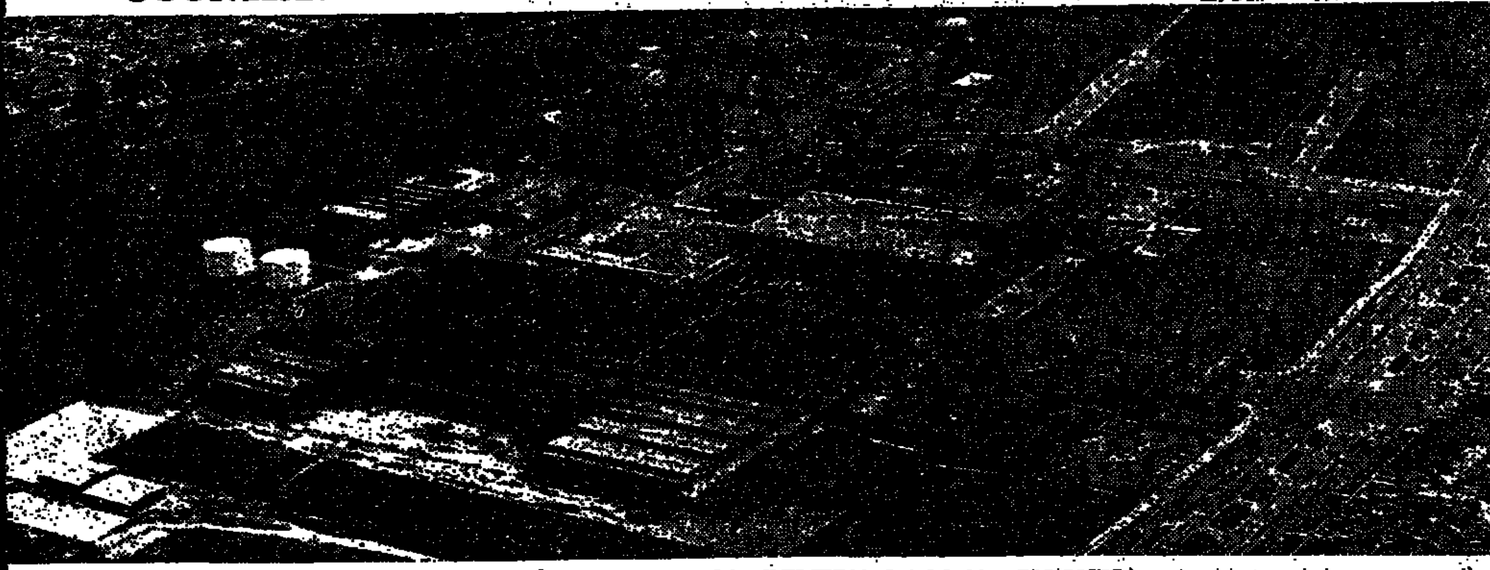
However, there is one part of Colombia that did have strong ties, the islands now called San Andrés and Providencia. These two Caribbean islands, located about 440 miles north of the mainland, were colonized by 90 Englishmen at the end of May, 1631. Old Providence was the fourth British colony in the Caribbean, before Jamaica.

The Providence Company was founded in London in 1630, and its directors were all prominent puritans, the treasurer being John Pym. Their main aim was to establish a model puritan colony. However, the company was given the right not only to colonize but also fit ships, arm them, and if attacked, retaliate. Providence, a volcanic island, was chosen as the main base because its natural harbour made it more suitable for privateers than the coral island of San Andrés. The experiment soon proved an expensive failure.

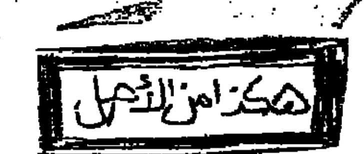
The climate of the island, which was excellent for cultivation of tobacco and cotton as cash crops, was too enticing and languid for nurturing a puritan morality. The introduction of Negro slaves and many other petty squabbles soon rent the colony. The privateering provided the seed of the final fall, despite many victorious clashes with the Spanish from Cartagena.

The directors of the company were losing interest. They had their eyes more firmly fixed on politics in England. When in May, 1641, the Spanish admiral Francisco Díaz de Pimienta landed with 2,000 men, the colony was crushed.





BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF BAVARIA'S BREWERY, BOGOTA (COLOMBIA)



Stock Exchange Prices

Firmer at the close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
99$\frac{29}{32}$	89	Treas	9¾%	1981	99¾	• ..	9.774	13.282
98$\frac{15}{16}$	91	Exch	8¼%	1981	98$\frac{15}{16}$	..	8.349	12.633
98⅛	91	Exch	9½%	1981	98⅞	..	9.606	12.352
96⅛	85½	Exch	3%	1981	96	..	3.125	12.005
100⅝	93$\frac{5}{16}$	Exch	12¾%	1981	100$\frac{5}{16}$	..	12.710	12.228
97$\frac{7}{16}$	88	Treas	8½%	1980-82	97⅜	..	8.732	12.039
95⅛	81⅝	Treas	3%	1982	95	..	3.158	8.540
102⅜	90½	Treas	14%	1982	101$\frac{15}{16}$•	..	13.734	11.972
95⅛	85⅜	Treas	8¼%	1982	95½	-$\frac{1}{16}$	8.639	11.983
96	85¼	Exch	8¾%	1982	95⅞	•-$\frac{1}{16}$	9.660	12.318
94⅜	84⅜	Exch	8¾%	1983	94⅝	-$\frac{1}{16}$	9.247	12.069
89	76½	Exch	3%	1983	89	..	3.371	9.218
98$\frac{7}{16}$	85¼	Treas	12%	1983	99$\frac{1}{16}$	•-⅛	12.089	12.470
93$\frac{15}{16}$	84⅛	Treas	9¼%	1983	93⅝	-$\frac{3}{16}$	9.881	12.491
102⅜	94¼	Exch	13½%	1983	101⅝	-$\frac{3}{16}$	13.284	12.755
93$\frac{15}{16}$	84⅛	Exch	10%	1983	93⅝	-$\frac{3}{16}$	10.681	12.778
87⅛	76⅜	Fund	5½%	1982-84	87	..	6.322	10.874
97$\frac{1}{16}$	86⅞	Exch	11¼%	1984	96$\frac{9}{16}$	-$\frac{3}{16}$	11.652	12.777
104$\frac{3}{16}$	94½	Exch	14%	1984	102⅞	-$\frac{3}{16}$	13.608	12.871
80⅜	68¼	Exch	3%	1984	80⅜	..	3.732	10.139
99⅝	88	Treas	12%	1984	97⅞	•-$\frac{3}{16}$	12.261	12.744
109¼	97⅞	Treas	15%	1985	106⅞	-$\frac{3}{16}$	14.035	12.798
75	68$\frac{13}{16}$	Treas	3%	1985	74¾	-¼	4.012	10.565

MEDIUMS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
103¼	89½	Exch	12¼%	1985	97⅞	-$\frac{3}{16}$	12.516	12.846
97⅛	93½	Exch	11¾%	1986	96$\frac{3}{16}$	-⅛	12.216	12.804
89⅛	78⅞	Treas	8½%	1984-86	87⅛	..	9.891	12.180
105⅞	90⅝	Exch	13¼%	1987	102⅜	-⅛	13.156	13.071
81½	70⅛	Fund	6½%	1985-87	80⅜	..	8.256	11.401

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

[illegible]

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

[illegible]

I—L

[illegible]

M—N

[illegible]

O—S

[illegible]

T—Z

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
346	178	Brit & Comm	289	..	17.9	6.2	7.3
208	116½	Fisher J.	154	..	2.9	1.9	12.6
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	40	+½	3.1	7.9	..
139½	85½	Ocean Trans	139½	+1½	12.7	9.1	16.7
137	105	P & O 'Dfd'	125½	+1½	10.0	8.0	7.7

MINES

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£13¼	..	60.7	4.6	..
892	485	Anglo Am Corp	634	-11	48.0	7.6	..
59¼	30⅛	Ang Am Gold	£39$\frac{3}{16}$	-2$\frac{3}{16}$	501	12.8	..
56⅝	35$\frac{7}{16}$	Anglo Am Inv	£42¼	-⅛	161	3.8	..
22	13⅛	Anglo Transvl	£17	..	144	8.5	..
22	13⅛	Do 'A'	£17	..	144	8.5	..
25	13½	Asarco	£16	+⅛	60.0	3.7	..
73	43	Beralt Tin	67	..	7.1	10.7	..
12½	4⅛	Blyvoors	£6$\frac{13}{16}$	-$\frac{3}{16}$	196	28.7	..
277	119	Bracken Mines	173	-13	47.4	27.4	..
29$\frac{13}{16}$	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£16$\frac{3}{16}$	-⅛	419	22.6	..
283	137	Charter Cons	245	+5	12.0	4.9	..

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RUBBER

[illegible]

TEA

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	250	+5	10.1	4.0	17.6
185	93	Milford Docks	115	..	9.8	8.5	..
147	88	Nesco Inv	147	+2	10.0	6.8	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£35	..	500	14.3	..

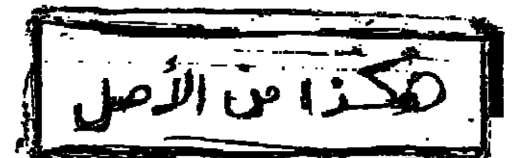
• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

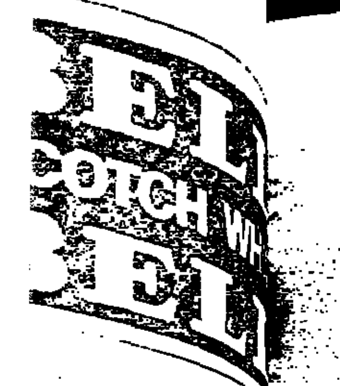
RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Allied London Prop 8½% Cnv 1999 (‡)	£105½
Bristol Water 5% Red Pref 1986 (†b)	£11¼+½
British Aerospace 50p Ord (150)	176-3
Dunbar Group £1 Ord (303)	420
Exchequer 13% Cnv 1985 (£97†g)	£97¼
Exchequer 12% 'A' 1998 (†)	£92-¼
Exchequer 12¼% 'B' 1999 (†h)	£70-⅛
Lon Merchant Secs 7½% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£45¼
Mid-Sussex Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†b)	£13
New Darien Oil Trust 25p Ord (100)	£101+1
New Tokyo Inv Trust 50p Ord	116
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (43)	39
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£123+½
Treasury 12% 1986 (†b)	£20⅛-⅛
Treasury 11½% 1989 'A' (†)	£91⅞-⅛
Treasury 11¾% 2003-2007 'A' (†)	£88⅞-⅛

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Argyll Foods (65‡)	Mar 27	64 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £50 paid. b £19 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £20 paid.





THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

- **Stock markets**
  FT Index 497.8, down 4.2
  FT Gilts 69.26, *down 0.08*
- **Sterling**
  $2.2260, down 25 points
  Index 99.3, up 0.1
- **Dollar**
  Index 99.9, up 0.3
  DM2.1145, up 70 points
- **Gold**
  $491.50, down $8
- **Money**
  3 mth sterling 12⅜-12⅜
  3 mth Euro-$ 16 11/16-16 9/16
  6 mth Euro-$ 16⅜-16¼

IN BRIEF

Conditions waived to free $400m Chrysler aid

Chrysler may receive the $400m in additional Federal loan guarantees it needs, even though the group has not complied with parts of its earlier financing agreements with Washington.

In its determination to prevent a Chrysler bankruptcy, the Government has *retroactively* waived about a dozen specific administrative and financial requirements of the company's rescue plan.

Meanwhile, Chrysler said it had cleared the final major hurdle in its effort to secure the use of the added $400m when the last of its 150 lenders *signed a revised debt agreement*, on Wednesday.

The $400m offering of United States government-backed notes may carry a yield of more than … per cent.

New director for Bank of England

Mr Anthony Leonis aged 44, an associate director of the Bank of England in charge of overseas operations, has been appointed an executive director in place of Mr Christopher Dow who has reached *retirement* age.

Mr Dow, the Bank's top economic adviser, is to retain his present responsibilities within the Bank and becomes an adviser to the Governor. Lord Robens of Woldingham is stepping down as a non-executive director and his place on the court goes to Mr David Scholey, joint chairman of S. G. Warburg & Co.

Facility withdrawn

The German Federal Bank has *withdrawn its special Lombard* lending facility for commercial banks, introduced on Wednesday at a 12 per cent interest rate.

Compeda deal

A computer-aided system for plant design management has *been sold by Compeda*, a subsidiary of the National Research Development Corporation, to Lummus, the American engineering construction organization.

Link extended

The trial marketing link between Prudential Assurance Company and the Leicester Building Society in the West Country is to be extended nationally.

Woolwich loans

The Woolwich Building Society is to make an additional …5m available for lending in Northern Ireland and part of the money will provide special assistance for the purchase *and improvement of* "*rural* cottages".

£400,000m oil

The value of North Sea oil discovered so far is £400,000m, *Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of* State at the Department of Energy, said in answer to a written parliamentary question.

German Ford

Ford-Werke AG said it would invest DM620m (about *£132m*) within the next two years on modernizing production at its Genk, Belgium, plant.

Government urged to adopt new strategy to effect recovery in real economy

By Melvyn Westlake

Any economic recovery in Britain is still two years away, according to new forecasts published today by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research. This is in *flat contradiction* to recent ministerial statements suggesting that an upturn in the economy is likely in the next few months.

SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE'S FORECAST

	Real GDP (per cent change, year/year, 1975 prices)	Real personal disposable income (per cent change, year/year)	Unemployment (fourth quarter million)*	Money supply (per cent change in sterling M3, fiscal years)	Consumer prices (per cent change, fourth quarter on fourth quarter)	Current account balance (year, £ billion)	Public sector borrowing requirement (fiscal year, £ billion)
1979	2.1	5.7	1.23	11.5	15.8	−1.7	9.9
1980	−2.7	2.7	2.02	18.0	12.9	2.3	14.0
1981	*−1.3*	*1.0*	*2.67*	*10.0*	*9.6*	*5.1*	*12.0*
1982	*0.2*	*0.7*	*2.99*	*10.0*	*8.2*	*3.2*	*11.1*

* Great Britain wholly unemployed, excluding school-leavers.

Because of the prolonged recession and a continuing *rise* in unemployment, the Government's objectives for cutting both its *spending* and the growth in the money supply during the next couple of years are not now attainable, the *National Institute says in its* latest *Economic Review*. Instead, the Government is urged to adopt a "new economic strategy which concentrates upon recovery in the real economy".

The review contains an illuctrative set of policy changes, including a cut in indirect taxes, a postponement of the tax relief changes for stocks, and a temporary lower ex*change rate, which could* reduce unemployment by 210,000 by the end of 1982.

The Institute estimates that such a package of stimulating measures would raise the public *sector borrowing requirement* by £3,000m in the next financial year and £2,000m in the one after, and increase the money supply 4 per cent by end-1982.

The Institute does not believe, however, that such a package of policy changes would be inflationary. The reduction in indirect taxes would offset the upward influence on prices of the fall in the exchange rate. *Moreover although* lower unemployment would mean that the downward pressure exerted on wage *claims would* be weaker, higher real incomes would act as a moderating influence.

The institute says, its forecasts do not suggest the British *economy is yet near the point* where the recession will "bottom out" and give rise to a spontaneous recovery that is sufficiently strong to reverse *the present paths of output and unemployment*.

While the gross domestic product will stop falling, it is not expected to rise. Unemployment will therefore go on rising over the next two years, towards the three million mark. On present policies, the institute's economists cannot foresee any spontaneous recovery *coming from either private in*vestment, stockbuilding, the trade balance, or personal consumption.

The Review is not even particularly optimistic about the outlook for inflation, which is expected to come down into single figures this year and then level out not far below 10 *per cent*.

The National Institute is geneerally Keynesian in its economic analysis and employs a forecasting model of the economy which has many characteristics common to that used by the Treasury.

It frankly describes Britain's short and medium-term growth prospects as "*bleak*", forecasting a further fall of 1.3 per cent in the real gross domestic product during 1981. *This will* follow a drop of 2.7 per cent last year.

In 1982 the real GDP is predicted to rise by a mere 0.2 per cent. However, real personal disposable income shows a *small* rise both this year and next, because earnings for those people in work rise slightly *faster than prices*.

The public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) in the present financial year is predic*ted to reach £14,000m*. This compares with an initial forecast by the *Government in* the last Budget of £8,500m and a revised figure of £11,500m only last November.

In the coming financial year the PSBR is predicted by the National Institute to remain high, at some £12,000m. It will be £11,000m the year after that, according to their calculations.

In its medium-term financial strategy, published last March, the Government aimed to reduce public borrowing to about 3¾ per cent of the nation's gross domestic product in the financial year 1980-81, and then cut it further to 3 per cent and 2¼ per cent in the following two financial years.

But according to the National Institute's calculations, public sector borrowing in 1980-81 will *reach 6 per cent of the gross* domestic product (higher than it was in 1978-79). In the following years, the percentages will be 4¾ and 4.

The Government is expected to have a similar difficulty holding to its money supply targets.

The pound's effective exchange rate against a basket of currencies is forecast to rise steadily, to stand 11.7 per cent higher in the last quarter of 1982 than it did two years earlier. The surplus on the cur*rent account of the balance of* payments is predicted to more than double this year, exceed*ing £5,000m, but dropping back* to £3,200m in 1982.

Stockbroking firms locked in talks

By Catherine Gunn

Partners of two well-known *stockbroking firms Quilter* Hilton Goodison and Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar were locked in lengthy talks, widely thought to be *merger discussions*, at Quilter's Gresham Street offices last night.

The talks follow difficulties in Hedderwick's gilt-edged business, which has been involved in two Stock Exchange inquiries in as many years. Quilter Hilton Goodison's senior partner is Mr Nicholas *Goodison, chairman of the* Stock Exchange. Mr Wallis Hunt became senior partner of Hedderwick last year when Mr Ralph Hedderwick retired.

Talks between the two firms had been categorically denied the previous day by both Mr Hunt and Mr Richard Blaxland, managing partner of Quilter.

Yesterday's meeting started at 5pm and was still underway two hours later, after a day of rumours ranging from a merger of the two firm's to Hedderwick's possible withdrawal from stockbroking.

Quilter has been known to be seeking a marriage partner for some time, while Hedderwick was widely rumoured to be in difficulties ever since problems arose over its gilt-edged department two years ago.

A year-long Stock Exchange inquiry by a committee which reported in February 1980 led to the temporary suspension from exchange membership of three of Hedderwick's partners, *the censuring of* then managing director Mr Colin Franklin, and the expulsion from Stock Exchange membership of the former head of the firm's gilts department, Mr Terence Webster.

Mr Webster, who had resigned in 1979, was said in the result of the inquiry to have acted to benefit certain discretionary accounts without defending the best interests of all clients. The Stock Exchange passed its findings on to the City of London Fraud Squad. Mr Franklin retired last year.

The three suspended partners resigned immediately from the firm, which began to try to rebuild its gilts department. But only four months later it was caused further embarrassment when, in June last year, suggestions that Hedderwick might have lent gilt-edged stock to jobber Wedd & Owen, which ceased trading that month, led to the start of another Stock Exchange inquiry just as Mr Wallis Hunt stepped into the retiring senior partner's shoes.



Mr Nicholas Goodison.

Pergamon declares 7 pc stake in Collins

By Philip Robinson

Mr Robert Maxwell, who is awaiting BPC shareholders' approval for his proposed £10m cash injection and his appointment as chief executive and deputy chairman, *disclosed* yesterday that his private company, Pergamon Press has acquired almost 7 per cent of William Collins & Sons (Holdings), the Glasgow-based publisher.

Collins, which owns Fontana paperback books, began to make losses in 1979 but has since been recovering.

Mr Duncan McGhie, the finance director, said: "We are not surprised at the stake. It was revealed only a few weeks ago that Witham Investments *had bought 8.35 per cent, so* people are buying our shares. There has been no contact between this group and Mr Maxwell other than the letter his representatives sent notifying us of th estake."

Pergamon began buying Collins shares last October under the name of Norman Nominees. It is believed its first buy was a parcel of 10,000 shares and by mid-November Collins had discovered that the *beneficial* owner was Pergamon.

In December Down Nominees *began buying shares and within* a fortnight Collins discovered this too was buying on behalf of Pergamon.

Mr McGhie said that Down Nominees continued as the main buyer of stock, but he did not yet know on what date the Pergamon holding went above 5 per cent, the level at which it is obliged by law to declare a stake. Pergamon's present holding is 282,500 shares, 6.86 per *cent of the total voting equity*.

Pergamon was building the Collins stake at the same time that Mr Maxwell was organizing a rescue package for BPC (formerly British Printing Corporation). Last July he staged a "*dawn raid*" in which he captured a 29.5 per cent stake in what is thought to be *Europe's largest printing group*.

Mr Maxwell, was unavailable for comment last night but a spokesman for him at BPC's headquarters said: "He's spending most of his time on BPC at the moment. But he is not *always* physically here because he is touring the plants and attending meetings".

Minister's ruling today on Lonrho bid for House of Fraser

By Philip Robinson

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, is expected to announce today whether Lonrho's £158m takeover bid for the House of Fraser will be referred to the Monopolies and *Mergers Commission for* investigation.

Recommendations from the *Office of Fair Trading went to* the Trade Department yesterday afternoon following a Mergers Panel meeting on Wednesday which considered submissions from both companies and the views of four government departments.

The urgency for a decision stems from the fact that next *Wednesday Lonrho's share*holders meet to approve the company's 150p a share offer for Britain's largest stores group.

The meeting in London at 10 am is to consider only one resolution, after which Lonrho, which already owns 29.99 per cent of Fraser, could walk into the *Stock Market and buy the* 30 million shares needed to gain control.

Meanwhile, Fraser directors fighting the bid,, disclosed yesterday that the group made at *least* £34m pretax profits last year. It hopes to hoist the total dividend 10 per cent and *now has assets worth 302p* a share.

The figures come from its formal defence document which details the reasons for the rejection of Lonrho's offer as "totally unacceptable" and says that shareholders should hold on to their "supervalue shares" and "supervalue assets."

Professor Roland Smith, Fraser's part-time chairman—who moved up from deputy chairman a month ago when the board voted out Sir Hugh Fraser—said: "This company is a massive and marvellous giant which is beginning to awake. For anyone wishing to sell their shares in these conditions—well then money must be going out of fashion."

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said: "*If the* shares and assets are so super value, why does not Warburgs (*Fraser's merchant* bank advisers) make us a super offer for our shares."

Professor Smith said that Fraser's profit figures come from trading boosted by a "very good January" and do not include any exceptional items or financial engineering of any *kind. Profits mean the* Group made £33m in the six months to the end of January, 12 *per cent more than the pre*vious second half and against £35.5m for 1979.

The dividend, likely to be lifted to a gross 9.428p, is expected to be covered on an inflation adjusted Current Cost Accounting basis.

Both sides are claiming substantial institutional support. Professor Smith says there is evidence that the big institutions, which hold around 35 per *cent of the total equity, fully* support the defence document and will remain with the company. Mr Spicer said: "If I had to put a figure on our known support, I would say we had 40 per cent."

Fraser's long-awaited revaluation of its property by Conrad Ritblat yields a total of £33[illegible]m, *a surplus of £185m over book* value. For the first time Harrods is separated out and on an *existing use basis is worth* £95m.

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More jobs at ICI likely to go

Continued from page 1

costs of £150m after its retrenchment in the past year. Most of this, amounting to £95m, arises in the fibres division where ICI has cut the workforce by 4,500.

Another £26m comes from a reduction in the value of the group's holding in Carrington *Viyella, which has also been* hard hit by the textiles recession and announced losses of more than £30m on Wednesday.

Group sales increased by 6 per cent to £5,715m last year of which £1,173m was exported. The chairman blamed the company's poor performance on the deep recession throughout the world. the sharp *rise in costs*, particularly oil which had added £100m to the group's raw materials bill, and the strength of sterling. He also accused the Government of allowing a "two-tier" inflation rate develop, with price increases in the public sector far higher than the private.

The worst trading areas for *ICI last year were the United* Kingdom and Europe. Canada, the Far East, and South Africa held up well. Losses were concentrated in four areas. Business fibres lost £86m; organics lost £35m; petrochemicals lost £44m; plastics lost £35m.

ICI has spent the year fighting hard to maintain its market *share but at the expense of* margins, and by the end of 1980 was selling many of its exports at costs that "barely covered production costs".

Sir Maurice defended the dividend cut by saying that it *had been forced* on the group because of the "markedly worse" outlook and not because of "*social reasons*".

Some European chemical companies have claimed to be seeing an improvement in demand but ICI, partly because of the adverse currency position, has had difficulty in making price rises stick so far this year. But it was clear yesterday that Sir Maurice had a message for the Government *when he said that "it was the* combination of the strength of sterling and the relatively high rates of inflation that were the problem".

Investment plans had been cut sharply, and there would be a further "very substantial reduction" this year. Authorized capital spending in 1980 was £324m, *against more than* £550m in 1979.

Actual spending on new plant *and equipment in 1980 was* more than £2m a day at £724m, only £36m down on the previous year. The effect of the reductions in authorizations, begun in 1979, would not be reflected in actual spending until next year.

The Confederation of British Industry said last night it *hoped that the results would* help to persuade the Government to lift in the Budget some of the cost burden borne by industry.

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Bonn unable to match US aid for Turkey

Bonn, Feb 26.—West Germany will be unable to match a United States *contribution* of about $400m (£180m) to the international credit aid package to Turkey, informed sources here said.

Mr Turgut Ozal, deputy prime minister *of Turkey, said after* talks with Herr Hans Matthöfer, finance minister of West Germany yesterday, that Washington would put $395 to $400m towards the $1,200m package Turkey was seeking from the *Organisation for Economic Co*operation and Development (OECD).

The sources said there was no question of West Germany, which has balance of payments and budgetary problems, matching the heightened American contribution.

Mr Ozal said Herr Matthöfer had suggested a pledging conference on the 1981 OECD Turkey credits in the first week of *May, somewhat later than the* Turkish side had hoped for.

A spokesman for the West German Finance Ministry underlined that this was not a firm *proposal from Herr Matthöfer*, but was the earliest possible date for the German government to commit financial aid to Turkey this year.

Mr Ozal was reported in Paris yesterday to have said that Turkey wanted $1,500m from the OECD this year, which included the expected contribution from Saudi Arabia, not a member of the organization.

The main contributors to the 1981 OECD credit package would be the same as last year: the United States, West Germany and Japan, he said. And he added that after his recent talks with the Japanese Government he hoped that *Japan would be raising its con*tribution this year, like America.

Mr Ozal said that while West Germany was not able to make its commitment to the credit package yet, he expected Bonn to play a key rôle in assembling the credits, after leading OECD efforts in 1979 and 1980.

Bankers to meet on Polish debts

Poland's grim economic *situation and huge foreign debts* are to be at the centre of discussions between international bankers and representatives of Bank Handlowy, the Polish foreign trade bank, in London next Thursday.

They *will* be talking about the possibility of rescheduling the country's foreign debts *running at about $24,000m*. Mr Jan Wolozyn, vice-president of Bank Handlowy, will lead the Polish side in the talks with some 100 banking representatives.

Yesterday in Paris, western creditor countries have agreed to provide urgent short-term aid to Poland. A statement *issued in Paris last night said* that a number of delegations had already agreed to urge their governments to act quickly with implementing the short-term aid plans.

The Paris group is to meet again in April to further study *Poland's external financial* situation.

£2,700m cash rescue plan for Italian steel industry

By John Earle

Rome, Feb 26

The Italian Government has drafted a bill to rescue the steel industry by the injection of 6,068,000m lire (nearly £2,700m), mostly into Finsider, the public sector group.

Signor Gianni de Michelis, the minister for state owned industry told a meeting of public sector *managers and trade* union leaders that the government had also instructed the board of IRI, Finsider's parent, to meet tomorrow to find emergency funds of about 35,000m lire (about £15.5m) to cover Finsider's February wages bill.

Workers in Finsider plants have been on strike because the group *said that it could not* afford to pay more than 70 per cent of wages this month.

The rescue plan which has yet to be submitted to Parliament, consists of a capital grant by finsider over three years of 2,568,000m lire; bond issues by IRI, guaranteed by the state and with a treasury contribution *towards interest payments*, amounting to 2,500,000m lire, in favour of finsider; and bond issues by Istituto Mobiliare Italiano, with a government contribution towards interest, in favour of private companies and *probably* amounting to 1,000,000m lire.

The government also intends to *mobilize a further* 1,148,000m lire already allocated on paper under the law on the rationalization of industry.

Mr Oppenheimer switches stakes

The Anglo American and De Beers *group controlled* by Mr Harry Oppenheimer, is transferring its 29.8 per cent stake in Consolidated Gold Fields to a Bermuda company, Minerals and Resources Corporation.

It is also injecting into Minorco its 35.8 per cent stake in Charter Consolidated, the industrial and mining finance *house. Minorco's assets* will be increased by acquiring the 50 per cent of the equity in and the promissory notes of Anglo American Corporation of Canada, giving it an indirect 44.8 per cent stake in Hudson Bay Mining and *Smelting*, another Canadian company.

Minorco also reported earnings before taxes for the *half* year to the end of December of $16.7m, compared with $10.2m. Shareholders will receive an interim dividend of 6 cents, and a possible final of 16 cents. Dividends for the year to the end of June 1982 should be "at least" 30 cents.

These transactions will be financed by issuing Minorco shares. The assets are valued at about $807m, and Minorco will issue another 59.3 million shares representing a capital *increase of 59.4 per cent. The* stake in Cons Gold is equally held by Doe Beers and Anglo American.

As a result, Anglo American's stake in Minorco will rise from 32 per cent to 42 per cent, and De Beers's interest will be 23 per cent instead of 16 per cent. Charter's stake in Minorco will fall, however, to 10 per cent from 14.7 per cent.

Mr Harry Oppenheimer, *chairman of Anglo*, De Beers and Minorco, said yesterday that an enlarged Minorco would allow the Anglo group to expand, particularly into North America.

He said: "We want Minorco to be big and powerful enough to, as far as possible, finance itself so that it is not a question when you want to do international business of always having to export money from South Africa."

After the restructuring *Minorco's assets should be about* $2,000m against $650m at the end of last year. Earnings per share could rise from 27 cents a share last year to 45 cents a share in the current year, if the rearrangement goes through.

A crucial aspect of the operation, Mr Oppenheimer said, is that Minorco will escape from *holding about 75 per cent of* its assets in one company, Engelhard Minerals, an American mining and precious metal refining concern.

Net asset value per share is forecast to grow by 83 cents to $12.05, and debt will be reduced as a proportion of shareholders' funds.

Shipyard output sinks to lowest since 1930s

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Output of Britain's largely state-owned shipbuilding industry last year sank to its lowest level since the years of the great depression of the mid-thirties.

Tonnage completed tumbled to 421,000 tons gross, representing a fall of nearly a third on the previous year's output and equivalent to less than half the average annual output levels of the early and mid-seventies.

The low level of output reflects the continued lack of orders world-wide and even Japan, whose output reached a peak of nearly 17 million tons in 1975, recorded an output of only slightly more than 6 million tons last year.

The decline revealed in the latest quarterly survey of shipbuilding performance worldwide and published by *Lloyd's Register of Shipping*, coincided with the formal opening of a new training centre for shipyard workers on Tyneside by *Mr James Prior, Secretary of* State for Employment.

Speaking at the opening Mr Robert Atkinson, British Shipbuilders' chairman, said the present restructuring of the industry was a painful process and it had been "heartrending" to see parts of it disappear along with thousands of jobs.

He gave warning: "If we are to even exist in our present form, significant changes of attitude to productivity must be accomplished resulting in a reduction of unit cost".

The latest Lloyd's survey showed that Britain has slipped to eleventh place in the world league table of major shipbuilding nations, with an order book at the end of last year totalling 858,000 tons gross.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Burnett H'shire	25p to 938p	Seecombe Mar	10p to 270p
BP	12p to 410p	Sotheby PB	10p to 455p
Electrocomps	10p to 678p	Shell Trans	8p to 420p
Inchcape	10p to 438p	*Ultramar*	5p to 480p
Hessey	11p to 317p	Wholesale Fit	15p to 230p

Falls

Bracken Mines	13p to 173p	Nurdin & P'cock	12p to 211p
Electrolux	25p to 925p	Nthgate Explor	10p to 310p
Elsbury Gold	11p to 179p	Sentrust	17p to 326p
Hammerson A	10p to 635p	Steep Rock	15p to 190p
Imp Chem Ind	26p to 268p	Thorn EMI	10p to 312p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.97	1.89
Austria Sch	34.95	32.75
Belgium Fr	81.25	77.25
Canada $	2.73	2.64
Denmark Kr	15.32	14.52
Finland Mkk	9.50	9.00
France Fr	11.36	10.86
Germany DM	4.88	4.64
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00
Hongkong $	12.15	11.55
Ireland Pd	1.31	1.25
Italy Lit	2340.00	2230.00
Japan Yn	488.00	462.00
Netherlands Gld	5.38	5.12

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Norway Kr	12.50	11.85
Portugal Esc	126.00	120.00
South Africa Rd	2.10	1.96
Spain Pta	197.00	188.00
Sweden Kr	10.71	10.16
Switzerland Fr	4.45	4.22
USA $	2.27	2.20
Yugoslavia Dnr	84.50	79.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Talbot makes a break with established procedures to speed output

Doing it the French way at Ryton

Talbot has *followed* the closure announcement of its Linwood plant by introducing *new* French-styled working practices at Ryton, its only surviving car plant near Coventry.

In a break with established procedures, it has set *lower* manning levels, cut job times and declared that in future management *will increase track* speeds when necessary without consulting shop stewards.

Over 500 Ryton workers have been made redundant in recent weeks reducing the labour force to only 1,700. In a letter to the remainder last week, Mr Colin Hudson, the plant manager, *said Ryton could not* continue to work to lower standards than those applying in other factories in the parent Peugeot Citroën group.

He gave warning that when employees returned to a four-*day week on Tuesday after six* months of one or two day working, they would have to meet *new production* targets or Ryton would not get the promised new car—the Horizon.

Shop stewards protested that the unilateral move cut across all existing procedures and retaliated by calling worker meetings throughout the plant. *However*, with job security the overriding factor, it was immediately apparent that there was little support for industrial action.

Yesterday Talbot reported "Ryton is working quite nor*mally* under the new conditions. For the first time for a long time workers now have an opportunity to increase their pay by taking advantage of an incentive scheme". The intention is to reach the 1,250 Alpines and Solaras output achieved last summer, but with a much reduced labour force.

Management has attempted to allay job fears at the nearby Stoke engine plant by intimating that the loss of engines and gearboxes for Linwood's soon to be axed Avenger and Sun*beam models will be offset* by increased assembly of engines for the Horizon.

Mr Filmer Paradise, deputy managing director of Talbot UK, said the intention is to increase the British content in *the Horizon to 60 per cent*. It has been made in Talbot's Poissy factory for the past two *years and imported to the* United Kingdom market as a built-up vehicle.

Clifford Webb



Iraq oil flow to Syria restarts

Iraq has resumed pumping crude oil at the rate of 50,000 barrels a day through the trans-Mediterranean pipeline to Syria. Oil flow to the Syrian terminal at Banias has been interrupted twice since the Iran-Iraq war broke out on September 22.

The crude is not expected to reach Banias and the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli until Saturday. Iraq and Syria agreed to a short experimental period during which only 30,000 barrels of crude a day will be pumped.

Iraqi terminals at the northern flank of the Gulf have been bombed by Iranian aircraft and gunboats for the past five months.

Syria has earned $25m (£11m) a year in transit fees for Iraqi crude passing through.—AP-Dow Jones.

French unemployment

The French National Statistics Institute forecasts a sharp acceleration in unemployment during the first half of this year despite the Government's youth employment scheme, falling output and persistent inflation.

French deficit

France's current account deficit for 1980 is now estimated at 31,100m francs (about £2,827m) compared with a surplus of 4,913m in 1979 and a surplus exceeding 15,000m in 1978.

Mexican investment

Mexico plans to invest about $3,400m (£1,514m) in its basic petrochemicals industry over *the next five years. The investment* will provide for the construction of nearly 50 processing plants.

Rupee revalued

The Reserve Bank of India said it had revalued the rupee against the pound by 0.54 per cent to a new middle rate of 18.45 from 18.55. The new buying and selling rates are £5.4348 and £5.4054 per 100 rupees.

French GDP

France's gross domestic product declined a provisional real 0.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1980 after a 0.3 per cent third quarter gain and a 0.3 per cent rise in fourth quarter 1979, the National Statistics Institute said.

Italy Eurocredit

Italy's Societa Italiana per l'Esercizio telefonico has signed a 10-year $100m (£40.7m) Eurocredit, increased from the original $75m. The credit carries a 4½ year grace period.

Oil search

Major oil discoveries off the coast of China are likely by late 1982 or early 1983, Cononco executives believe. Negotiations on concessions are expected to begin later this year, with exploration to start in early 1982.

Minicars move

Osaka Meter Company, the Japanese taxi and parking meter maker, said it plans from next April to produce Italian-designed minicars with engines and parts supplied from Italy.

Oil products prices

Consumer prices for oil products sold inside the European Economic Community dropped sharply in mid-February to 94 per cent on February 16 from 102 per cent the previous week.

More US cars

Car production in the United States this week will be about 132,947 cars, up 1.5 per cent from last week's 131,003 but 12.2 per cent down on the same week last year.

Oil talks fail

Japan and China have failed to reach an agreement on the price of China's crude oil for this year, Japanese industry sources said.

Worries on foreign holiday travel as recession bites into spending

Tour operators expect tighter year

British travel operators will be unable to maintain the spectacular growth rate of last year during 1981 and profit margins are *likely to fall* due to more competitive pricing, according to a new report on the sector published yesterday.

The latest Jordan financial survey on United Kingdom travel agents and tour operators says that the main question troubling the industry is whether the current strong demand for foreign holidays will continue as the recession bites into consumer spending.

Mr Robert Tiltscher, the Grieveson Grant stockbrokers, *says in the introduction to the survey* that most tour operators' profits have been extremely healthy during *the 1980 financial year.*

Though the growth rate is not likely to continue, rewards should remain strong, *and the flexibility now apparent in all of* the major operators should mean that 1981 will be another successful year.

The report singles out *Thomas* Cook as the most profitable operator, with a ratio *of pre-tax profits to sales* of 19.61 per cent. Using the formula of pre-interest profits to tangible capital employed, the small Yugotours company led the field, with Thomson Travel and Britannia Airways, the linked market leaders, coming seventh and fifteenth respectively.

Mr Tiltscher is particularly critical of the performance of British Airways in the charter market which, he says, has led tour operators such as Horizon and Intasun to increase their own charter aircraft fleets.

The state airline presented a "dismal *and depressing scenario*", Mr Tiltscher said. Excess capacity and overmanning were characteristic of its problems, and *future investment in new aircraft had been* cancelled or delayed. BA's projections for growth, which envisaged an increase *in passengers from 17 million in 1980 to* about 30 million in 1986, now appeared to be rather optimistic.

Trading margins were likely to be under severe pressure during next year and it would *appear* highly likely that a reappraisal of the loan limit which was last month raised by £85m.

The report says that Laker can be expected to play a major part in the rapidly-expanding travel industry in the 1980s, but the group's package tour operations face a problem of potential excess capacity.

Laker's acquisition of the new A300 Airbus will increase the carrier's capacity by some 50 per cent over that of 1980, and by 100 per cent next year, considerably more than any expected rate of increase in the holiday market.

The report comments: "The budgeted programme of expansion for Laker is very ambitious and will need a particularly aggressive marketing strategy for it to succeed."

British travel agents & tour operators, Jordan Surveys, £85.

David Hewson

Japanese choose assisted area in Wales for battery factory

By Edward Townsend and
Peter Hazelhurst

Yuasa Battery, which makes products for the electronics industry, has become the latest Japanese company to choose a *United Kingdom assisted area* for new manufacturing investment. It has plans for a factory *in South Wales eventually* employing 270 people.

The announcement, made by Yuasa during a visit to Tokyo by Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, *provides another boost for the* Government's assisted area policy and follows the decision *by Nissan to establish* a £300m car manufacturing plant in the United Kingdom.

The arrival of Yuasa, which has selected a site on the Rassau industrial estate in *Ebbw Vale, is seen as adding* strength to Welsh attempts to attract the Nissan investment. Mr Edwards had already said during his visit that Wales had four suitable sites although he *stressed that the same level of* help and cooperation could be found in other areas of the United Kingdom.

Like the proposed Nissan plant, the Yuasa project will *qualify for* regional development grants covering 22 per cent of the capital cost plus discretionary assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act.

Mr Yuichi Yuasa, president *of the company, said a definite* decision on the plant would be given after the conclusion of *negotiations.* The "*clinching* factor" in choosing Wales was the quality of the labour force. The company had considered many countries in Europe, but none could match the high standards of the British worker.

The plan was to employ 140 *in the first year rising to 270* and reaching full production by 1982. More than 70 per cent of battery output would be exported to Europe and the United States and most of the *raw materials and equipment* would be bought locally.

Mr Edwards, who is leading an industrial investment mission to Japan, said: "I think it is a great compliment that after looking at so many other countries, the company has formed such a favourable impression of the Welsh labour force. I know that that has been the experience of other industrialists."

A German company based at Rassau had told him that production was as high if not higher than in their parent company. "The local people are extremely adaptable and *will settle happily into the* Japanese style of management."

Yuasa produces industrial *batteries for security alarm* equipment, mini computers and emergency lighting. It is *capitalized at £12m and con*trolled by stockholders such as Yuasa Hardware, Mitsui Life Insurance, Mitsui Trust, Nippon Life Insurance and Mitsui Bank.

New guide to charities accounting methods

By Sylvia Morris

A report published yesterday by *the Institute of Chartered* Accountants in England and Wales recommends a more con*sistent approach to accounting* methods used by charities.

The report, which includes a survey of *85 of the largest fund* raising charities and 50 smaller ones, reveals a wide variety of accounting methods *which* makes it difficult to compare one with another. Identifying the problem areas, *it also sets* out guidelines for a more consistent practice.

These are not designed to involve charities in additional effort and expenses. According to Peter Bird and Peter Morgan-Jones, the authors, many charities are already using a lot of *effort to produce complex* accounts which are difficult to understand.

The *suggestions* they hope will redirect rather than increase this effort to result in a *more intelligible and useful set* of accounts.

Financial reporting by charities, Publications Department, The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, PO Box 433, *Chartered Accountants'* Hall, Moorgate Place, London, EC2. Price £8.95.

Union campaign to halt Tate & Lyle closure

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Five unions in the sugar *refining industry yesterday* launched a campaign to prevent the closure of Tate & Lyle's Liverpool refinery with the loss of what the unions estimate will be more than 1,500 jobs.

The unions have produced a research document, which has *been delivered to Mrs Thatcher*, MPs and British members of the European Parliament. It argues that there are alternatives to the closure of the Love *Lane refinery, opened more* than 100 years ago.

The document calls for a change in EEC rules on sugar production and restrictions on the 150,000-plus tonnes which are imported into Britain each year. In the meantime, while negotiations take place at Brussels on sugar quotas the unions want the Government to provide regional aid to the Liverpool plant.

The unions supporting the campaign are the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs, Transport and *General Workers, General* and Municipal Workers, Amalgamated Union of Engineering *Workers and the Electrical*, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union.

Mr Terence Comerford, an ASTMS national officer, said yesterday that the unions accepted there was over-production in the European sugar refining industry, but consumption over the past few years had moved in cycles and the unions did not want the United Kingdom unable to meet increased demands in later years.

He said the unions believed sugar imports were running at almost 200,000 tonnes a year, and as the Liverpool refinery had a 300,000 tonnes a year capacity, restrictions of imports would have a big effect.

The unions argue that there is room within the United Kingdom sugar market for both Tate *& Lyle in its present form and* a slimmed down British Sugar Corporation, which has an*nounced plans to close four* sugar beet processing factories.

Mr Comerford said the *union's research showed that* Britain did a substantial amount of trade with cane sugar export*ing countries*, which could be lost if a decision was taken to cut back on production.

The unions also object to part of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget being used to *support the sugar production* of other European countries such as France and West Germany *whose sugar industries* are mainly based on refining home grown beet.



Mr Lynn Wilson: 125,000 jobs could be created.

Release of building land 'could help unemployed'

By John Huxley

Private house-builders could *make a large contribution* towards reducing unemployment in Britain if local authorities *provided more land.*

"Every new house built will provide two and a half jobs a *year if those directly employed* in construction and other related materials and services supply are added together", Mr Lynn Wilson, president of the House-Builders Federation, *sain in Manchester yesterday.*

Delay in releasing land meant that someone in Britain was being denied a home of his ow nand someone else a job. Builders could realistically start work on an additional 50,000 homes in 1981 on land released by local councils, providing an extra 125,000 jobs "at no cost to the Government".

"It would require no subsidy, it would generate rate revenues for local authorities, it would be largely import-free", he said. Such a building programme would also have an important multiplier effect, creating demand for the consumer durables needed to fill homes, for example.

Last year, the number of *homes started by builders* slumped to 152,000, the lowest peacetime total since 1924-25. *The figure for 1979 was 221,000.* The sharp decline was explained partly by heavy cuts in public housing "*starts*", which amounted to little more than 50,000.

For various reasons, including general economic uncertainty and the high price of mortgage finance, the private sector was not able to fill the gap.

More coal than petroleum used last year

By Nicholas Hirst

Coal consumption in the United Kingdom during 1980 exceeded that of petroleum for the first time in a decade. *But* both coal and petroleum use declined sharply. Consumption *of petroleum showed a 13 per* cent fall to 121 million tonnes of coal equivalent—a standard *energy measure*—and coal falling 5.9 per cent to just under 122 tonnes.

*The fall in energy consump*tion has hit the coal and electricity industries hard, but allowed the United Kingdom to move into net oil self-sufficiency during the year.

Provisional figures for 1980 in *Energy Trends*, the Departmen of Energy's statistical bulletin, underline the problems into which the National Coal *Board has been driven.*

Coal consumption in the three months ending in January was down by *7.3 per cent*; more than the average drop during 1980 as a whole. Despite a *seasonal draw of one million* tonnes during January, coal stocks at the end of the month stood at *36.7 million tonnes*, which was 10.4 million tonnes higher than a year ago.

The majority of these stocks were being financed by the coal board; the increase in stocks at power stations having *risen* only 2.5 million tonnes to 17.1 million tonnes.

Prices of coal *from the third* quarter 1979 to the third quarter 1980 had risen 18 per cent, and imports had risen by two thirds to 7.3 million tonnes, *offset partially by a rise in ex*ports from 2.3 million tonnes to four million tonnes, sometimes *made at a loss.*

Electricity demand fell 4.7 per cent last year, but fuel use *by power stations fell even* more—by 5.9 per cent—indicating an improvement in effici*ency. Coal use rose* to a record 89.6 million tonnes while oil consumption fell 38.4 per cent *to 11.2 million tonnes of coal* equivalent.

The big falls in coal consump*tion were suffered by industry*, whose use fell 15.1 per cent in house coal, which declined 18.6 per cent and in coke ovens for the steel industry, where consumption was *22.9* per cent lower than in 1979.

The largest increase of all energy prices was in sales of gas to industry where prices rose 42 per cent between the third quarter *1979* and the third quarter 1980.

Consumption of natural gas during 1980 fell by 0.4 per cent, the first time there had been a fall since its introduction in the *mid-sixties.*

Profit jumps at NEB's vehicle finance arm

By Edward Townsend

Wholesale Vehicle Finance, *the National Enterprise Board* subsidiary which finances stock held by BL car and van dis*tributors in the United King*dom, increased its profit in the second year of operations by 75 per cent to *£3,505,000.*

The company's accounts for 1980, published yesterday, show that before charging interest of £581,250 on loan stock, the average rate of return on shareholders' funds was 22 per cent. This was 4 per cent higher than in 1979 and reflects increased interest rates and higher funding levels.

WVF was set up in 1979 with £100m of loan facilities to enable BL franchise holders to re*ceive vehicles on a sale or* return basis, funded by WVF, instead of buying them or paying *bulk deposits. The dealers* pay a display charge based upon current interest rates plus an operating margin.

The creation of WVF forged closer links between the NEB and City institutions. The Government announced recently that when the Industry Bill becomes law, ownership of BL will be transferred from the NEB to the Department of Industry, but Mr Alfred Singer, *chairman of WVF, said in his* annual statement that "so far as we know there is no pro*posal for transfer of ownership* of WVF."

He added that prompted by the success of the company, a new subsidiary, WVF Commercial, had been formed to offer a stocking scheme for distributors of Leyland Vehicles, the BL bus and truck division.

He said that 1980 was a difficult year for the motor trade with falling sales, extreme price competition and very high interest rates. "Although high *charges* are a problem it is generally recognized that these are due to national and inter*national factors rather than to* our own actions since WVF bases its charges on the interest *it has to pay.*"

Prepayment deposits with BL Cars during the year were down to *£101,399,000* from £111,501,000 the previous year, but display charges rose to *£17,506,000* from *£10,200,000.*

Mr Singer said: "Nineteen eighty has been a year of great events for BL and possibly a turning point in its history".

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oil fund support for industry

From Mr Algy Cluff and others

Sir, The Budget *will no doubt* confirm the imposition of the proposed supplementary petroleum tax which will *raise* £1,000m to be used to reduce the public spending borrowing requirement (*PSBR*). Apart from the regrettable precedent which this sets, being a levy on gross receipts rather than a tax on profits, much of the hostility both inside and outside the oil industry to this additional tax stems from the belief that it will go into the general revenue of the country and be frittered away rather than being used *for the much needed regrowth* of British industry or being retained as cash flow in the oil *industry and used in a number* of ways which will in themselves produce benefits, includ*ing revenue, for the United* Kingdom.

We therefore suggest that the proceeds of the proposed new petroleum tax should go into an Oil Development Fund *whose purpose would be to re*generate the industrial life of this country.

The fund should apply itself particularly to the creation of new industries and to those industries and *areas which* are basically strong in ideas, management and labour but which *are now being forced out of* business. The fund should be used for the private sector of industry as a large proportion of resources is already being allocated to the public sector often to the detriment of the private sector.

The fund should seek through new growth to promote employment. *The scale of the money* available from the proposed supplementary tax should make a considerable impact *on these* problems. The fund should for example be used to provide finance on a bigger scale than is available at present to enable entrepreneurs to develop new ideas, to help newly formed companies with good products to grow and to assist established companies with reasonable prospects to get through *the present* recession.

There are of course arguments against the proposal, for *example that there are* already public sector and private sector organizations which do the same *jobs. But the fact remains* that despite the resources and efforts being devoted to indus*try (and there is hopefully* more to come in the forthcoming Budget), the development *of new industries is being held* back and large areas of British industry which should be re*vived remain weak.*

It is, of course, arguable that it is not another source of *finance, however* big and flexible, which is needed to revive industry but an end to the world recession and a change in public sector policies; then a new-look lean British industry would emerge ready to take on the world. However, there is little sign of the world recession ending, and it is difficult given the great momentum of public sector activities to get them under control when for years they have been running out of control.

How will it work in prac*tice? We suggest that the* controlling board should consist of industrialists and businessmen, *including oil men*, who can bring the necessary business exposure and flair to the task; that the executive staff should be imaginative and flexible; that the expenditure side of the accounts (for the provision of capital to industry rather than for the salaries and overheads of the fund) should seek annually to equal the income side; that the fund itself, though conducted on sound and not give-away principles, should not seek to make a "profit"; and that the business of the fund should be conducted with a sense of urgency even if *that* increases the risk.

ALGY CLUFF,
MONTY FINNISTON,
D. L. LUX,
FRANK STEELE,
Cluff Oil Limited,
58 St James's Street,
London SW1A 1LD,

Business names register

From Miss Elizabeth Stanton

Sir, Today the House of Lords will have the chance to debate a Government proposal which has been condemned as a gravely false economy by lawyers, the business community and consumer organizations: *Clause 29 of the* Companies Bill, if passed, would abolish the Business names register.

The Business names register is the means whereby members *of the public can trace the* names of the people who are responsible in a firm and, if *you are in serious dispute, it is* essential to have the names and addresses of the individuals concerned, not just their trading name.

The register at present is not very satisfactory and it uses resources of both civil servants and public money. But it is no solution to the problem *simply* to abolish it and replace it with the Government's feeble alternatives. With modern technology, *very small numbers of* people can obtain and maintain full and accurate information; *we believe the Register should* be self-financing and its use should be enforced.

This is *not an esoteric* debating point, but a matter of real concern to the general public. All honest people, traders and consumers alike, are rendered vulnerable by this proposal and we hope the House of Lords will protect us.

ELIZABETH STANTON,
Secretary, Legislation
National Federation of
Consumer Groups,
39 Oxford Street,
Wellingborough,

True level of gas price rise

From Mr Rex Calvert

Sir, The Gas Board announce a price increase of 15 per cent, to be followed by a second increase of 10 per cent. The BBC describe this as a total increase of 25 per cent. To the consumer it will no doubt be 26.5 per cent.

The United States President proposes three successive tax reductions, each of *10* per cent. These, he says, will amount to 30 per cent. To the beneficiaries the total will surely be no more than 27.1 per cent?

REX CALVERT,
649 Barnsley Road,
Newmillerdam,
West Yorkshire.

Share prices and inflation

From Mr Alastair C. Begg

Sir, It is misleading of Mr Damant (February 21) to suggest that share prices are anticipating a recovery in industrial profitability. In real (ie, inflation-adjusted) terms, the *FT-Actuaries* Industrial Index *has* risen by only 9 per cent since November 1979, a time when *MLR had just been raised to* record levels and the outlook was just as bleak as it is today. *Compared with its level at the* time of the Government's election, the index has fallen by 4 *per cent in nominal terms, and* 25 per cent after allowing for inflation. Over the last ten years, *the real value* of share prices has fallen by almost half.

The argument for examining profits in the light of inflation is by no means spurious. Shareholders have as much right as wage earners to expect their remuneration to grow in line with the average price level.

ALASTAIR C. BEGG,
Flat 1,
1 *Milton Avenue,*
London, N6.
February 23.

Need for a comprehensive energy policy

From Mr Norman Jenkins

Sir, Could I, please, make another plea for energy strategy? Your first leader of February 19 on nuclear disarray, the letter from Mr Ian Munro of Eurisol in the same issue on one aspect of energy conservation and today's (February 20) piece by Kenneth Owen on heat pumps are all associated but appear doomed to individual assessment. The net consideration is total energy need, priority of effort and the amount of fuel or latent energy we should turn into either heat or power—not necessarily the same as heat and power. It is not energy conservation we need, that is mostly negative, but comprehensive energy control.

At the press conference your leader refers to, Mr Peter Rost, MP, one of the Energy Select *Committee's most active and* best informed members, answered a question concerning better *uses for the £15,000m* involved. He referred to the continuing activities of the committee now examining the case for combined heat and power—CHP. Again, separate consideration of a crucial alternative to either nuclear, maximum insulation (already answered by the Energy Technology Support Unit) or widespread use of heat pumps.

The select committee has had a less than smooth ride as the result of its criticisms of the Department of Energy and the electricity industry—almost for *its effrontery* in questioning decisions of the specialists. But is it not their kind of—constructive—criticism *just what* we need in the way of entirely impartial examination of issues *that the lower House at any* rate, in common with the rest of the country, tends to leave to *the experts? It is becoming in*creasingly clear to impartial technologists, economists and *sociologists as well as industry* at large that none of the nationalized industries can be *trusted to formulate their own* versions of energy policy without putting their specific interests before those of the consumer—or the nation. Their remits are such they cannot be blamed for the kind of ultimate zeal that is fostered by unlimited resources.

So long as these industries have the power to make independent decisions demanding priorities, controlling capital expenditure, consumer tariffs and depletion of reserves, and to use their weight to obstruct such developments as CHP (CHP at Hereford remains in isolation, replication is denied the same source of funds) while promoting heat pumps, there cannot be any balance of these conflicting strategies.

Heat pumps, incidentally, concern a useful technology that can be and is being misapplied while its need for duplicated heating equipment when the system ceases to function is ignored together with the reflex effect of peak loading encouragement, base load depression eventually increasing base tariffs. It is part of the same story but too long to go into here, nor should I anticipate publication in the near future in a much respected engineering journal.

What Sir J. Dalberg Acton said to Bishop Creighton in 1887, at the very birth of the electricity industry, applies today. To shift the onus from disparate but, in this sense of strategy irresponsible industries, to an enlarged select committee may be to create absolute power, there is every hope—and likelihood—that the very nature of the job and its push-pull of inevitable interests would cancel out the power that corrupts absolutely.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN JENKINS,
Whitehall,
Ewshot,
Farnham,
Surrey, GU10 5BS.
February 20.

Intelligence of machines

From Professor Donald Michie

Sir, Mr David Torvell's letter (February 20) gives warning that Kenneth Owen's factual survey of recent research may encourage superstitious beliefs in intelligence in machines. Provided that Mr Torvell has some reason to think that Owen's readers might swallow something they should not, we must commend his concern to help them void it.

Unfortunately, however, Mr Torvell has himself swallowed something that he *should* not, not from Kenneth Owen's admirable account but, alas, from the names commonly attached to our discipline, "artificial intelligence" or "machine intelligence". We, the practitioners, are to blame for this.

The term "knowledge engineering", which many prefer, is on the other hand satisfactorily descriptive of current accomplishments. These can *be described as the transfer of* human *expertise* to machines in one or another domain of *mental skill, together with the* ability to display and explain the inference chains by which the machine arrives at its conclusions. As Owen makes clear, this new branch of software engineering, which can now be implemented on physically portable micro-computers, is burgeoning wherever the need is felt for "expert systems" able to give concrete aid to in-house experts.

At this point Mr Torvell stubs his toe on a specimen utterance of SRI International's Prospector system, "I am considering the possibility of a lead/zinc deposit", having confused it with cosmetic chit-chat of the "Hullo Jimmy" type. This utterance is recognisably a fragment churned up from Prospector's self-explanation facility. If (one suspects that he has not) Mr Torvell were actually to use an expert system, or even to see one in action, he would soon realize that such self-explanation is not a cosmetic additive, but on the contrary the heart of the system. It is indeed the critical feature differentiating the products of knowledge engineering from software products of standard design.

When such a system can give not only reasoned explanations but also scientific justification of its conclusions, then we may begin to say that in some sense the machine "understands" what it is doing or advising, and hence betrays glimmers of intelligence.

We are, as *Mr Torvell notes*, a long way from attaining this objective. Yet in some appli*cation areas it is a desirable* one, for example for intelligent fault diagnosis of complex *equipment*. It should not be deliberately associated in people's minds with something so plainly undesirable as superstitious credulity.

Better advice would be to resolve to believe it when we see it, and meanwhile keep an eye open on the technical columns of *The Times*.

DONALD MICHIE,
Machine Intelligence Research Unit,
University of Edinburgh

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

ICI's savage cut

ICI may well have opened a pandora's box with its decision to cut the dividend so sharply. One thing for sure is that the ramifications will be felt far beyond its Millbank headquarters, even if the shock treatment ICI executives are presumably hoping will help reshape the Government's economic strategy has come too late to produce rethink towards help for industry in next month's budget.

So far dividend cuts among major groups have been confined to those with very particular trading problems like Tubes and GKN in engineering or Courtaulds in textiles.

Now that one of Britain's most successful companies, widely spread geographically and in product lines, has said that it has no alternative with current Government policies but to cut its payment to shareholders it will become more respectable for finance directors elsewhere to use this route in order to bolster strained balance sheets.

Even though the market was half-expecting ICI to do the unthinkable, the severity of the cut—the 26 per cent reduction in the gross payment to 24.3p a share so saving £101m was as large as in the 1930-31 depression—knocked £160m off ICI's capitalization at one stage and 10 points off the *FT* index as concern about further dividend cuts more than outweighed the confidence that has been flowing from hopes o fa cut in interest rates.

Even though the full year figures show that ICI was still trading at a small £6m loss in the seasonally strong final quarter, the overall outturn contained no surprises given the continued slack demand in the chemical Industry and sterling's strong performance, especially against the D mark which is the currency in which ICI has to do battle with its major European competitors.

The group reckons that it loses £2¾m in profits with every pfennig drop in the DM and after the sharp fall in the German currency last year, ICI argues that it lost £250m.

The group's troubles are concentrated in United Kingdom and continental Europe with areas like Australia, Canada and the Far East doing well and within that it is the acutely volume-sensitive fibres, plastics petrochemicals and organics divisions that wreaked the damage, although the new North Sea taxes also trimmed back Ninian's contribution to only £97m.

The question that really needs answering is whether ICI has been short-sighted in cutting the dividend. Certainly there is little sign of the appalling trading conditions in the balance sheet where after the liquidity problems of the mid-1960s ICI has taken care to protect its cash position. Working capital has dropped by £110m, liquid resources are unchanged and loans are only £162m higher. Capital spending has been pared to the minimum but ICI is in any case over its cyclical hump.

All the same, faced with further extensive surgery this year, an overall loss of £20m after last year's £150m rationalization costs and a current cost loss of £234m at the bottom line, ICI had little option but to cut where even now the distribution is only just covered in historical terms, particularly as it can see no sure sign of the upturn in volume or margins that its European competitors are claiming to be experiencing.

Plessey

Reincarnation of a glamour stock

Plessey's shares—up another 11p yesterday to 317p—have had a remarkable run over the past year and the results have justified this. A rise of nearly two-fifths in the third quarter leaves profits after nine months up by 71 per cent to £60.7m and for the full year £84m looks within reach.

The size of the likely profit rise from £60m the previous year is partly due to recovery from a period affected by strikes and carrying losses on electro-mechanical exchanges and consumer electronics.

Even so, Plessey has been showing real growth and after allowing for currency movements and discontinued operations sales in the nine months have risen by nearly a quarter—well ahead of inflation.

Apart from hydraulics which will lose money this year and microelectronics where profits are sharply down because of rationalization costs and recession, the core businesses—telecommunications and defence—have gone ahead and United Kingdom profits doubled to £47.4m on the back of Plessey's public sector business.

Defence cuts and cash limits have not had much impact on orders either and the group total was a third higher than a year ago at £1,204m.

The strong cash flow generated in the United Kingdom is reflected in rising interest receipts and internally generated funds will more than cover increased capital spending up from £35m to £48m and leave the balance sheet stronger at the year end.

Assuming a 10 per cent rise in the final dividend like the interim—and the dividend may finally be covered under CCA—the yield is 3.4 per cent and the p/e ratio about 20 fully taxed.

Plessey can now support this kind of rating after the turnround in its fortunes over the past couple of years. But it is clear that the group will now be entering a quieter phase, although steady growth looks assured.

● *Tesco released interim figures and a trading statement last November and the latest bulletin from the chairman, Mr Leslie Porter, is substantially a repitition of what was then said.*

Even so the shares softened by ½p to 58p yesterday because what was intended to be a reassuring bulletin served only to fuel doubts about the sale and leaseback's programme's ability to pay for costly expansion.

It is disclosed that the first arrangement with Royal Insurance covering ten town-centre supermarkets was completed in December for £21.43m, but this comes with the terse addition: "Further transactions have followed in accordance with the planned programme."

The problem is that capital spending is around £110m a year, and the original aim was to raise up to £100m by sale and leaseback.

Pretax profits in the year just ending probably fell from £36.5m to £33m or so, with Tesco suffering with the food retailing sector from costs catching up with food price inflation. But it again stresses rising productivity. MLR cuts would do wonders, and the 6 per cent yield at 58p could yet be the basis of share buying for recovery soon.

Minorco

Global power

By injecting into Minorco most of Anglo American and De Beers's important holdings outside South Africa, Mr Harry Oppenheimer has created the world investment vehicle he has long wanted. This is not just another of those internal reshuffles to which Anglo is so prone; it gives a South African company, which is huge by world standards but which has always been constrained by its origins, the means to invest on big scale outside the Republic, and particularly in North America.

This was perhaps the role once envisaged for Charter Consolidated. Now, after the partial disengagement in 1979 and this transfer to Minorco of Anglo's stake in Charter, that company is free of a direct Anglo satke for the first time. Simultaneously, the direct Anglo and De Beers holdings in Consolidated Fields are brought together in one place, although the effective Anglo influence in Cons Gold is not diminished.

Add in the Anglo American Corporation of Canada and Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting stakes, and Minorco's capitalization rises from around $1,200 to $2,000m. More important, Minorco's income-earning powers as a holding company are greatly increased. About 75 per cent of its assets were previously in Engelhard, a company which although very profitable pays small dividends. The income from Minorco's future much more diverse assets will finance fresh investment without recourse to funds from South Africa.

Shareholders in Minorco, which some have seen just as a way into Engelhard, can therefore look forward to strongly rising earnings. Indeed, they are already promised 30 cents a share next year compared with 22 cents this year. Shareholders in Anglo, De Beers and Charter will also benefit from large numbers of shares in Minorco, although because of the issue of Minorco shares Charter's percentage stake falls. Cons Gold may also be a little happier at being this much distanced from South Africa.

America's monetary control techniques are being put to the test

Can the Fed hit its targets?

Washington

American monetary policy will remain tight, according to Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board of the United States who appeared before the Senate banking committee this week.

Making a statement is one thing; achieving declared goals quite another. The Fed is aiming at the mid-point of its newly established money stock growth ranges and not the upper limits. If past performance is any guide, it will not realize its ambitions.

Even hitting the top of the ranges will involve a significant slow-down in the money growth rate from last year's actual performance. How far the board succeeds will determine to no small degree the course of interest rates, the strength of the dollar and the health of the American economy.

The misleading nature of the weekly data makes for difficulties in keeping track of the Fed. New studies show that the M1 numbers, for example, when first published, can be $3,000m (about £1,300m) wide of the mark, up or down, and that makes for marked inaccuracies.

Another serious problem is that changes in American financial systems are tending to distort the money stock numbers. For example, the recent changes which permit the establishment of ordinary bank current accounts that pay the same interest rate to depositors as savings accounts, resulted last year in large cuts in M1A, substantial increases in M1B and in M2 (see table for definition of these measures) and the effects this year are difficult to predict.

Faced with unreliable measures and short-term statistics, market operators are going to have to base their opinions and predictions to no small degree upon confidence in the board's ability to hit its targets.

The Fed's aims and basic views are similar to those of most central banks, but its strategies are different.

Until October, 1979, it bought or sold reserves to and from the markets with the aim of managing interest rates and holding them to a narrow range consistent with the desired growth of the money aggregates. Success depended on forecasting how much money the public would hold at given interest rates. Its forecasting record was fairly miserable.

In October, 1979, the Fed replaced interest rates as the key to daily market operations by the volume of bank reserves. Its staff calculates paths for various reserves aggregates which fall into line with the target for money growth. The board explains that the paths are calculated on the expected relationship between reserve and the money stock the so-called reserves-money multiplier.

The Fed points out that "this relationship is variable and not known with certainty because of the differences in reserve requirements on various components of the monetary aggregates which shift in relative importance from week to week. Moreover, in addition to required reserves, depository institutions also hold a varying amount of excess reserves. A path for non-borrowed reserves that is calculated by making an allowance for the portion of total reserves expected to be provided through borrowings at the Federal Reserve Bank discount windows".

Things can easily go wrong in making the right calculations with the result that the Fed misses its targets. Experience with the system itself tends to produce better reserves management by the board. But it is not so arrogant as to believe that experience alone will work wonders.

A detailed Fed study has just been completed of how the system has worked in its first year. As a result some changes are likely in operating procedures.

The board is likely to be more willing to change the discount rate, or adjust the set paths of non-borrowed reserves more often, when the total levels of reserves are running persistently more strongly or weakly than predicted. The board has also recognized that at times it might be best because of "costly disturbances in domestic financial or foreign exchange markets" to make short-term departures in market operations from the longer-run money stock growth targets.

It says that "uncertainties about the relationship between money and economic performance suggest the desirability of a degree of flexibility in the targets—including the use of ranges for more than one measure of money—and the potential need to alter previously established targets".

Studies show that it is impossible by using the present approach, to distinguish clearly the effects of Fed action from other economic influences on interest rates. There also seems to be no doubt that in volatile economic conditions the greater the board's efforts at directly controlling very short-term money stock movements, the more likely is it that interest rate levels will jump around.

All things considered the Fed did not do too badly last year. The actual money supply growth rate for each of the money stock measures was only modestly above the targeted upper limits. Now the Fed has more experience of its techniques, it has analysed its approaches and it is willing to be more flexible and more alert to dangers.

There seem to be solid reasons in light of this to suggest that this year the Fed will come closer than it did in 1980 to meeting its targets. Perhaps it will actually hit the upper limits of the ranges, rather than overshoot them.

The more that market operators come to similar conclusions the greater will be confidence in the longer-term prospects for price stability. This would translate into strength for the dollar in the currency markets and into some reduction in longer-term interest rates.

The Fed will not intervene in the market when interest rates move up sharply so short-term rates are going to be subject to the interplay between supply of funds from the public and private and governmental demands.

Economic activity in the United States is slowing and inflation continues high, so for the time being it seems likely that the supply of funds will grow little, while loan demand from the private sector will fall. Rates should decline in the short term, even with continued large government borrowing.

But the economy can be expected to move ahead in the summer, particularly if the Reagan tax cuts are enacted. For short-term rates the extent to which the Congress cuts public spending this year will be absolutely crucial. Unless the Congress cuts sharply, then it seems quite reasonable in this era of tight money to expect a prime rate above the recent record level of 21.5 per cent.

The Fed's policies will also mean higher unemployment—as it beats back inflation—unless there is the reduced public borrowing that permits the private sector to borrow at rates that offer a reasonable profit return on productive capital investments.

For these reasons Mr Volcker was correct in telling Senators that their decisions on how much public spending to cut is crucial for the United States economic outlook.

Frank Vogl

MONEY GROWTH TARGET RANGES FOR 1981 AND ACTUAL GROWTH IN 1980

	Aim 1981	Actual 1980
M1A	3-5.5%	6.25%
M1B	3.5-6%	6.75%
M2	6-9%	9.8%
M3	6.5-9.5%	9.9%
Bank credit	6-9%	7.9%

Note M1A is currency plus private demand deposits at commercial banks not of deposits due to foreign commercial banks and official institutions.

M1B is M1A plus other checkable deposits (ie) negotiable-order-of-withdrawal accounts, accounts subject to automatic transfer service, credit union share draft balances, and demand deposits at mutual savings banks.

M2 is M1B plus savings and small denomination time deposits at all depository institutions, shares in money market mutual funds, overnight repurchase agreements (RPs) issued by commercial banks, and overnight eurodollar deposits held by US residents at Caribbean branches of US banks.

M3 is M2 plus large time deposits at all depository institutions and term RPs issued by commercial banks and savings and loan associations.

Bank credit is total loans and investments of commercial banks.

Technology

Levitating all the way to the airport

Kenneth Owen

Just as heat pumps can give you something for nothing in terms of energy, magnetic levitation enables you to lift yourself up by your own bootstraps.

(New readers start here: my assertion last week that heat pumps provide more energy than they consume caused a flurry of incredulity, denial, ridicule and abuse from a number of thermodynamically minded correspondents; nonetheless, it is true. For the bootstraps trick you need literally to be electrified; under these conditions this also is true. Now read on.)

Magnetic levitation or "maglev" is a form of vehicle suspension which does away with wheels, springs, dampers and the like. As announced this week, it is being adopted for a shuttle service which will link the new Birmingham Airport, when it opens in 1984, with the nearby National Exhibition Centre and British Rail's Birmingham International station.

This is a short-distance (600 metres), low-speed (30 mph) link. Work on similar suspension techniques for higher speeds and longer distances has been carried out in other countries, notably Germany and Japan. The Birmingham project could well lead to substantial export business for the industrial consortium that is now taking the individual pieces of technology involved and putting them together into an integrated, working system.

Discarding wheels in favour of magnetic support has an unfortunate consequence, however, in that wheels come in useful also for propelling and braking the vehicle. Thus an alternative "non-contact" method of propulsion and braking is needed; rockets or aero-engines could in theory be used, but the quieter, smoother and simpler solution of the linear induction motor is preferred.

Pioneered in Britain by Professor Eric Laithwaite of Imperial College, London (and applied with technical success in the National Research Development Corporation's cancelled Tracked Hovercraft project), the linear induction motor is, in a gross oversimplification, a rotary induction motor which is cut and opened out flat.

The motor's stator (outer, stationary part) becomes a series of windings mounted flat on the underside of the vehicle; and the rotor (inner rotating part) is in the form of an aluminium/steel reaction rail laid in the track. When current is fed into the windings, secondary currents are induced in the reaction rail and electrical fluxes are produced which apply propulsive or braking forces to the vehicle.

As for the magnetic levitation, the vehicle carries a pair of electromagnets slung underneath each corner. The magnets are tucked underneath the T-shaped track and along each edge of the bar of the T is a steel suspension rail. When the electromagnets are activated they are attracted up towards the rails, lifting the vehicle up by its own magnetic bootstraps so that it is floating on air (or "flying", to quote British Rail, at a height of about half an inch).

Electrical power is picked-up from conductor rails along the track and direct current is converted into variable-frequency alternating current to energize the magnets for lift and to power the linear motor for thrust.

The Birmingham project is co-sponsored to the tune of about £2.8m by West Midlands County Council, the People Mover Group Consortium, British Rail and the Departments of Industry and of Energy. The design is based on experimental work by the research and development division of British Rail at Derby, including the testing of a small vehicle on a special test track which has fairly sharp curves and gradients.

At Birmingham the shuttle link will be owned and operated by West Midlands County Council. The council will also handle the civil engineering work, while the electrical and mechanical work will be done by the People Mover Group consortium.

Within the consortium, GEC Transportation Projects will manage the project and co-ordinate the engineering. The linear motor will be supplied by Brush Electrical Machines, and the magnetic suspension system by GEC Rectifiers (power supply and electronics) and GEC Witton-Kramer (magnets).

Other members of the consortium are GEC-General Signal (automatic train controls and communication systems); Metro-Cammell (vehicle bodies); and Balfour Beatty Power Construction (current collection equipment). British Rail's research and development division are technical consultants to the People Mover Group.

Each Maglev car will carry from 30 to 48 passengers. They will be whisked between airport terminal and railway station in about 90 seconds.

It is a far cry from the glamorous concepts of the high-speed maglev trains which have been expensively developed in Japan—but it could be the start of significant new business for British industry in the potentially lucrative area of moving people smoothly and efficiently from A to B, where A and B are fairly close together.



British Rail's experimental magnetically suspended vehicle shown here will form the basis of the 30-passenger shuttle cars for the new Birmingham Airport in 1984.

Business Diary: Caracas, carnivals and carnivores

A quoit's throw from the fashionable beach at Caraballeda pelicans are crash-diving into the surf for their breakfast.

They are not the only predators hereabouts. Further out at sea, human takers of fish are themselves being swooped upon by an equally unceremonious foe; and an hour away in Caracas the Venezuelan authorities are taking unusual steps to protect another endangered species—the pedestrian.

First, the fishermen: while their counterparts in Britain complain about the threat to their livelihoods from foreign fleets and plummeting prices, the Venezuelans are angry at the lack of protection from pirates. In recent months a number of vessels have been attacked by pirates believed to be operating from anchorages along the southern Caribbean coast from Venezuela to Panama.

Only last week, a Swedish vessel was plundered while fishing of Jamaica. The crew survived, but others have not been so lucky. Two Venezuelan boats and their crews — who were probably fed to the fishes that the pelicans are chasing — have disappeared. Coast guards believe that the boats were approached by pirates. These disguise their intentions by pretending to be in distress rather than flying a skull and crossbones.

The rest is familiar to students of piracy anywhere: the unsuspecting boat is boarded, the crew eliminated and the prize taken by the pirates back to port for respray and resale, just as if it were a knocked-off Mini undergoing transformation in a backstreet garage.



How grim was my valley: traffic thunders through the inaptly-named El Silencio district of central Caracas.

Last week General Jose Diaz Cardenas, director of the armed forces environmental guard division, admitted that his fleet is inadequately equipped to protect the fishermen, who had earlier gone on strike in protest at their insecurity (and poor prices for their fish, it must be added).

The armed forces have offered to improve patrols, but Diaz Cardenas also wants the boats to go to sea only in groups and to ensure that one of their number is always in radio contact with the shore.

"Those ships that have been attacked have always been alone and did not have proper radio contact. In both cases it took five days before we knew of the attacks and by that time the pirates were long gone."

Back on wet land (cars are still splashing through the puddles left by unseasonal torrential rain) the authorities in Caracas are trying to get to grips with those who prey on pedestrians—in particular those bag and purse snatchers who swoop on their victims from the pillions of motor cycles. As in many South American and southern European cities, this form of motorized crime is a growing menace.

The annual carnival started this week. This, apart from being one almighty thrash for the populace, is often a benefit outing for petty criminals. Operation carnival is under way with more than 5,000 civil defence officers assigned to patrol the streets and recreation areas 24 hours a day—to prevent not merely crime but merry-makers from injuring themselves.

Crimes of passion and suicides occur regularly during the week-long bash, which has been described as a "true re-creation of the Middle Ages dance of the flesh".

The authorities cannot legislate against crossed husbands and wives, but they are confident that theft by pillion passengers will be substantially down on previous years. A simple expedient has been adopted—the authorities have banned the carrying of all passengers on the back of motor cycles and say that this has already brought a reduction in juvenile crime.

As may be imagined, this has not gone down well among the two-wheel fraternity, who object that innocent pastimes—taking *mama* shopping or the *chica* for a spin—are now outlawed.

The police have so far shown no sign of relenting, despite growing pressure to do so. Last week, for example, hundreds of motor cyclists rode through Caracas in a cavalcade of protest against the ban.

It did not work, but a cavalcade of demonstrating drivers could well go unnoticed in Caracas. The oil-rich and petrol-cheap capital has a chronic traffic problem, despite its excellent four and eight-lane freeways. In part, this is due to its valley site, which has prevented expansion sideways and forced a nine-mile long sprawl.

The noise of the traffic belies the name given to one of the central areas, *El Silencio*, and the pollution is sufficiently bad for carbon monoxide to figure in daily newspapers in the same way that the pollen count does in British newspapers. On one day last week, for example, the *Daily Journal* reported that there had been 13 parts of carbon monoxide per million of air, against the maximum tolerable level of nine.

No Caraqueno expects the traffic to flow freely during this of all weeks. The civil defence authorities have urged motorists to take extra care in the maintenance of their cars to prevent breakdowns on streets likely to be choc-a-bloc with carnivals.

Meanwhile, Venezuelans have been reassured by Tomas Socias Lopez, president of the Food Chamber, that there will be sufficient quantities of all types of foodstuffs this week. In the past, this has not always been so. The native population has been swelled by immigrants seeking Caracas's streets of gold and the total number living in Venezuela is put variously at between 13 and 20 million. Farming has been unable to keep pace and this has sometimes led to food shortages.

There should be plenty for all during the present carnival. Even the fishing industry director at the ministry of agriculture has announced that there will be adequate supplies of fish and shrimp—enough for people and pelicans.

John Huxley

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Late rally after ICI prompts retreat

The market was stopped in its trades yesterday by news of ICI's first dividend cut since the war.

Immediate reaction to the news was for jobbers to mark ICI's share price 20p lower to 270p in order to stop the expected rush of selling orders. *The manoeuvre partially succeeded*, but over 4m shares still changed hands and the price dipped to 266p before recover*ing to 268p, a net loss on the* day of 22p.

The rest of the market followed suit as share prices were marked sharply lower cutting short what had been a strong start to the session with the index 2.2 higher at 10 am. Indeed, dealers had been cheered by the apparent settlement of the waterworkers' pay dispute and were looking forward to the Budget amid hopes of a reflationary package and 3 per cent cut in interest rates.

But the I.C.I. figures put a stop to that. It was only later in the day that **Plessey's** bumper third-quarter figures, announced at the same time, prompted dealers to rethink the extent of the damage. Plessey rose 11p to 317p.

In the event, supported by new-time buying, the market was able to recoup some of the losses and, having been 10.4 lower at 2pm, the *FT* Index *eventually closed* 4.2 off at 497.8.

Business in gilts dried up with prices drifting lower in thin trade. Confidence is still high that there will be a cut in interest rates before the Budget, but the failure of one to materialize yesterday came as no real surprise. In longs, prices closed £¼ lower, having fluctuated within narrow limits for most of the day, while in shorts the figure was as much as £¼.

Leading industrials took the brunt of the upset in I.C.I., but had recovered much of their poise by the close. *Unilever, where figures are due next* week, slipped 3p to 483p but nervousness ahead of *Fison's* figures, due out Monday, clip*ped 7p from its price at 133p.* Falls were also seen in **Beecham**, 3p to 161p, **Dunlop**, 1p to 64p, **Metal Box**, 6p to *186p Turner & Newall*, 3p to 75p, **GKN**, 3p to 146p and **Glaxo** 4p to 274p. **Hawker Siddeley** resisted the trend with a 2p *rise to 286p.* **Courtaulds** at 61p, and **Lucas Industries** at 183p held steady.

Newcomer **British Aerospace** *succumbed to profit taking and* dipped 3p to 175p.

British Sugar ended the day 3p lower at 283p still awaiting the Monopolies report to the bid from **S & W Berisford**, down 11p at 171p, due out next Tuesday. **Lonrho** held in to a 1p rise at 101p on the back of its Observer acquisition from Atlantic Richfield, while **House of Fraser** put on the same at 148p in response to publication *of its defence document. But* **Robertson Food's** decision to reject the approach from **Avana** left the shares 4p lower at 159p.

Letraset eased 2p to 105p on news of the sale of its New York auction rooms and **Allebone** retreated 6p to 31p following a statement from the board on recent speculative attention.

Tesco softened ½p to 58p on its latest trading review and in engineering, **Burnett & Hallamshire** improved 25p to 938p on news of an overseas contract while **Westland Aircraft** hardened 3p to 120p on favourable comment.

Among other companies reporting **Gripperods** dipped 10p to 128p, **London Shop Property** 2p to 133p, **Tace** 4p to 26p, **Westward Dawes** 2p to 21p, **Ariel Industries** 3p to 38p and **Spencer Clark** 3p to 36p, all following their various trading statements. But bright spots were seen in **Footwear Industries** 4p to 50p, and **Ward Holdings** 2p to 55p.

Despite GKN, Courtaulds and now ICI, it is noteworthy that a supporters' club around Tube Investments still considers it will hold the dividend when reporting on the year to last December next month. Even so, the shares retreated 6p to 190p yesterday, despite the attractions of an ostensible yield of nearly 20 per cent.

Thet ight conditions and impressive profits from *Plessey ensured* a firm finish in the electrical sector. **Racal** closed unchanged at 363p with **GEC** recovering most of its earlier losses to close just 3p lower at 645p. Electro-components were a strong market rising 10p to 678p with specula*tive buying coming to the aid* of **Cray Electronics** 6p to 112p and **Electronics** 8p at 147p.

Oils were still benefiting from the seventh round licences, expected any time. **BP** advanced 12p to 410p, **Shell** 8p to 420p, **Ultramar** 5p to 480p, and **Burmah** was unchanged at 181p. But falls were seen in **Tricentrol**, 2p to 310p, **Lasmo**, 3p to 649p and **Ranger Oil**, 10 to 615p.

In banks, **National Westminster** made progress in the wake of recent figures climbing 3p to 373p, while **Barclays** on 400p and **Lloyds** on 330p held steady. But **Midland** slipped 5p to 331p. Continuing hopes of a bid from **Lloyds** again lifted **Grindlays** 5p to 178p

In properties, lack of interest failed to support share prices *and falls were seen in* **MEPC** 6p to 234p, **Land Securities** 9p to 395p and **Hammerson "A"** 10p to 635p.

Insurance shares were still subdued by recent disappointing figures from **Commercial Union**, down 2p at 155p. But by the close prices *showed some* recovery with **General Accident** on 312p, **GRE** on 332p and **Sun Alliance** on 784p all unchanged.

The royal wedding continued to be of some comfort to beof some comfort to several of the companies likely to be closely linked with the celebrations. **Black & Edgington** rose 1p to 39p, aided by comment, along with **Staffordshire Potteries** 1p to 51p while **Trusthouse Forte** closed unchanged at 204p. But profit taking left **Royal Worcester** 3p off at 287p, **Wade Potteries** 4p lower at 50p *and* ***Birmingham Mint*** *a similar* figure at 226p.

Equity turnover on February 25, was £132.264m (18,775 gargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were, ICI, Shell, British Aerospace, Fisons, GKN, Cons Gold, Boots, GEC, Metal Box, Vickers, Allied Breweries, Distillers, Ultramar, Marks & Spencer and Commercial Union.

Traded Options: Dealers reported another active session with 1,852 contracts recorded of which ICI cannot 574 contracts. Traditional options had *a quiet declaration day with* calls in British Land on 7½p, a put in Plessey on 16p and a double in FNFC on 5½p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
A I Industries (F)	19.39(19.26)	0.7†(0.11†)	9.6†(0.7†)	0.01(nil)	—	0.01(0.85)
Ariel Inds (I)	3.56(3.95)	0.06(0.42)	0.9(6.2)	0.54(1.08)	16/4	—(2.7)
Albright & Wilsn (F)	412.3(385.7)	0.28(18.9)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Alcan Aluminium (F)	335.6(307.3)	2.1(6.2)	—(—)	—(3.3)	—	3.3(6.6)
Brown Bros (I)	43.7(47.2)	0.15(1.85)	0.12(3.9)	—(1)	—	—(2.1)
Burroughs Mach (F)	148.0(135.7)	20.8(26.4)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Capital & National (I)	—(—)	0.48(0.57)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Gripperods (I)	8.49(6.96)	0.55(0.55)	10.6(10.7)	2.25(2.25)	4/4	—(—)
John Hadland (F)	4.76(3.97)	0.5(0.39)	12.8(8.7)	nil(—)	—	—(—)
ICI (F)	5,715(5,368)	284(613)	22.1(79.2)	5(11)	3/4	17(23)
Plessey (*)	603(526)	60.7(35.4)	16.75(9.57)	3.22(2.93)	15/5	—(6.94)
Ratcliffs (F)	—(—)	0.09†‡(0.9)	—(—)	0.75(—)	—	1.5(2.5)
Romai Tea (F)	2.42(2.93)	0.48(0.33)	45.4(48.8)	22.5(22.5)	—	22.5(22.5)
Tale (F)	15.29(14.8)	0.3(0.53)	2.42(7.97)	nil(—)	—	0.85(2.0)
Thomas Walker (I)	0.86(0.87)	0.06(0.066)	0.59(0.88)	0.16(0.16)	2/5	—(—)
Ward Holdings (F)	12.81(11.75)	1.58(2.34)	16.6(25.6)	3.01(3.01)	—	4.2(4.2)
Westwood Dawes (F)	2.45(2.2)	0.009(0.12)	1.13(4.48)	nil(2.5)	—	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * = For 9 months. † = Loss. ‡ = Net.

Alcan passes final payout as profits tumble to £2m

By Mariareta Pagano

As the minority shareholders *of Alcan Aluminium* UK are deciding whether to accept the Canadian parent's £12m offer to buy them out, the group has announced that it operated at a loss in the second half last year. The final dividend has been passed.

Yesterday's results showed that the 78 per cent-owned British subsidiary made pretax profits of £2.1m in the year to December against profits of £6.2m last time. Sales were up to £335.6m against £307m. Current cost accounts show that the operating loss was £14.6m, interest charges were £14.9m and, after a gearing adjustment of £8.6m, the attributable loss was £22.1m, compared with £13m last year. Total borrowings now stand at £104.7m, an increase of £13m over 1979.

With the final dividend being passed, the gross payment for the year is 4.7p. Last year's total was 9.42p gross. The *shares were suspended on* February 3 at 52p on news that the parent was bidding for full control.

Mr Denniss Pinn, the chairman, said the results were in line with forecasts made at the interim stage when profits were £7.5m. He said, however, that there would be continued losses in 1981, a significant increase in borrowings and poor prospects for a return to dividend *payments in the short term.*

The board has recommended shareholders to sell the minority 22 per cent stake at the offer price of 120p a share from Alcan, Canada. It is held that with its problems, Alcan would be better protected as a wholly owned subsiary of the company. The stake is held by 2,600 United Kingdom individuals and institutions holding 10m shares out of total issued shares of 44m.


Mr Denniss Pinn, chairman of Alcan Aluminium.

After good first-half figures the decline in demand in the domestic market hit hard in the middle of last year. Although streamlining began in 1979 the group was forced to make 480 redundancies, cutting the workforce to 8,000, and many plants were on short-time working. Most are now back to a five day week.

Overall business volume fell sharply to uneconomic levels, particularly in rolled and extruded products where main customers are the building, motor and packaging industries. Destocking is thought to be over. The effect on profit margins of the strong pound, rising transport, energy, rates and communications costs bit *deep. Most of British industry,* Mr Pinn said, suffers an "unacceptable penalty" for energy costs compared with foreign competitors.

Squeeze on margins hits Brown Brothers

Brown Brothers Corporation suffered with everybody else

By Rosemary Unsworth

associated with the motor trade in its first half and profits crashed by £1.7m.

Although turnover remained fairly steady at £43.7m compared with the previous years's £47.1m, margins were forced sharply down and pretax profits fell from £1.85m to £153,000 in the six months to December 31. *The interim dividend has* been passed. Last year Brown paid an interim of 1.43p gross.

Interest charges rose steeply during the period from £470,000 to £607,000 as borrowings climbed from £3.8m to £6.4m. Stocks increased by £900,000, although compared with the year end they have fallen.

Sir Montague Prichard, the chairman, said that trading conditions continue to be very difficult and no relief can be foreseen in the immediate future.

The group has made 400 workers redundant in its engineering and distribution subsidiaries. The rasts are reflected in the figures. Brown Brothers Engineering losses worsened in the six months although the central heating company performed well.

However, parts of the motor trade distribution operation, such as replacement parts, had *a reasonable six months and the* group said that although it was taking steps to improve efficiency it was reluctant to close down branches which has been carefully built up, to avoid damaging future prospects.

Dana Corporation, which has a 69 per cent stake, is changing its year end and Brown's board will alter its accounting period accordingly.

The present accounting period will therefore run for 16 months to October 31, 1981, and unaudited results for the 12 months to June 1981 will be published in September.

Receivers named for Whiteley

The share suspension of B S & W Whiteley at 8p three days ago was the prelude yesterday to the announcement that the directors of Whiteley have told the trustees of the 6 per cent debenture stock 1984-89 of a "serious adverse financial *position*".

In accordance with the trust deed, Mr Richard Agutter and Mr Guy Parsons, partners in Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, the accountants, *have been appointed joint* receivers and managers.

Already approaches have been received which may lead to offers for parts of Whiteley's business, *and the group continues to trade.* One such subsidiary is thought to be Pool Paper Mills at Otley in West Yorkshire. But it is as yet too early to say whether ordinary shareholders would get anything. The position could become clearer next week.

Whiteley is an electrical insulating pressboard manufacturer. It's shares were 18½p at one time *last* year. Swiss interests hold 30 per cent of the shares and at the last count Prudential Assurance held a further 7 per cent.

Reorganization at Charterhouse Group

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

The Charterhouse Group, the financial group which owns Charterhouse Japhet, one of the City's accepting houses, is being reorganized. It is now to be run through five distinct operating divisions each headed by its own managing director.

Yesterday's announcement confirms Mr Geoffrey Rowett as group chief eexcutive. *He is* also being appointed deputy chairman of the group in succession to Mr Derek Wilde, who *is retiring.*

Mr John Hyde, who is to be chairman and chief executive of Charterhouse Japhet, is taking up his post on April 1. Aged 53, he has been chief executive of Chemical Bank International since 1977. Mr Hyde is to be responsible for the implementations of the merger with Keyser Ullmann agreed last year.

A new appointment is that of Mr Michael Morley as managing director of the corporate investments division which embraces the group's 25 fully owned subsidiaries and long-term invest*ments.*

AEG loss three times larger than forecast

International

AEG-Telefunken, West Germany's second largest electrical group, recorded a loss of DM300m (£63.8m) in 1980, larger than the forecast loss of DM100m, but lower than the DM961m lost in 1979.

The company attributed *1980's loss mainly to extra*ordinary and unexpected costs arising from efforts to restructure the group and return it *to profitability.*

It said it expected 1981 sales to grow beyond the 1980 figure of DM15,000m, but added that growth would not match 1980's 6 per cent increase over 1979 sales. It said it expected the fall in value of the Deutsche mark to offset high interest rates and economic recession at *home and abroad in 1981.*

Domestic sales rose by 6 per cent to DM8,700m, while foreign sales rose by 5 per cent to DM6,300m.

Loss of $81m at Massey

Massey-Ferguson yesterday reported a first-quarter net loss of US$81.4m (£36.7m), but said it *expects progressive improve*ment during the remaining three quarters.

The loss for the three months to January 31 compares with a $12.6m loss a year ago and is made up of an operating net loss of $101.9m and an exchange gain of $20.5m. The 1980 loss included exchange losses of $31.3m.

Massey announced in December *that it expected a loss of* about $100m in the first quarter.

Mr Victor Rice, the chairman, said he expected improvement this year because of increased confidence after Massey's refinancing plan and as a result of stronger markets, particularly in North America.

Lend Lease improves

Lend Lease Corporation, Australia's largest property development and management group, lifted consolidated operating profit after tax by 15.6 per cent to A$11m (£5.5m) for the six months to last December.

Revenue for the six months increased by 11.8 per cent *to* A$203.5m while investment and other income was steady at A$2m.

The interim dividend has been *maintained* at 7.5 cents, in line with the 15 cents paid for the full 1979-80 year.

The directors expect that operating profit for the full year will be not less than A$23m, which compares with A$20.35m for 1979-80.

Sharp rise in first half at Footwear

By Our Financial Staff

Footwear Industry Investments, the shoe manufacturer, increased its interim pretax profits from £83,000 to £255,000. The dividend has been maintained at 2.2p gross.

Mr Monty Sumray, the company's chairman, points out that the results for he six months to the end of last November should be seen against the background of a depressed previous first half.

In the last financial year Footwear had to spend £810,000 on factory closures and reorganization. But Mr Sumray says that the benefits are now showing through in profits, although turnover is down from £6.29m to £5.79m.

After-tax profits were £129,000, compared with £40,000, giving earnings a share of 3.2p against 1.0p. Pre*tax profits for the last full year* were £321,000, with a substantial improvement coming in the second half.

The shoe factories in Wales were the main source of the profits increase. Footwear has a big order to make ladies' shoes for Marks & Spencer. The company also benefited from high interest rates on its £1.25m cash balances.

Mr Sumray said that merchanting orders for Quality Shoes, whose manufacturing operations were closed as part of the reorganization last year, are picking up. He expects merchanting to make a good contribution to profits in the next financial year.

Briefly

Whitley Bay Entertainments: Wise Speke and company have acquired a further 440 shares on behalf of Mr and Mrs Claude Cooper at 280p in the market.

Thomas Walker: Turnover for *half year to December 31* £857,000 (£869,000). Pretax profit, £62,000 (£66,500). EPS 0.597p (0.888p). Interim held at 0.24p gross.

Allebone and Sons has issued a statement saying they are not aware of any special circumstances to explain the recent sharp rise in the price of the company's shares. The shares rose steeply on Tuesday.

Spencer Clark Metal Inds: Mr D. M. Howarth, chairman, told the annual meeting that the company's trading situation had deteriorated further and it was now trading at best in a break-even situation. He was still optimistic that this position would improve over the next few months.

London Shop Property Trust: has announced an interim dividend of 1.0p, payable on April 30.

John Hadland Holdings: No dividend on ordinary shares for year to October 31. Turnover £4.76m (£3.970m). Pretax profit £514,000 (£398,000). *EPS 12.8p (8.7p).*

Westwood Dawes: Turnover for year to December 31 £2.451m (£2.2m). Pretax profit £91 (£122,000). EPS 1.13p (4.48p). No div for year (2.5p net). CCA pretax loss £121,000.

Capital and National Trust: Net revenue *for half* year to *January* 31 £483,000 (£571,500) after tax. Nav per share 213.2p (179.5p). Interim, 2.25p already announced.

St James's Advertising & *Publishing* is changing its name to St James's Corporate Communications, and moving offices to St *James's House*, 4-7, Red *Lion* Court, London EC4A 3EB.

British Assets Trust: Directors have declared a first quarterly interim dividend on the ordinary shares, of 0.95p per share payable on March 2, 1981. The company has repaid a loan of $16m.

Court ruling on Bonnerpark deal

After a High Court ruling yesterday, the Royco land and *property group will become a* wholly owned subsidiary of the private Bonnerpark group, run by property millionaire Mr Roy Strudwick.

Bonnerpark, which already owns 75 per cent of the ordi*nary shares of Royco, has* offered 60p for the cancellation of each of the remaining shares. But the scheme, which has been opposed by some Royco shareholders since the first bid last January, was again rejected by Mr Malcolm Douglas, chairman of Willowglen, holding 35,000 shares.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Reduced workload and increased costs depress profits at Ward

By Our Financial Staff

A depressed housing market has seen demand for larger houses for second-time buyers dwindle, though first-time buyers are still in the market. To cope with this, Kent housebuilder Ward Holdings switched its building mid-way from larger, more expensive units to smaller homes for the first-time buyer. But delays averaging three months in changing the planning approval on sites, lower margins on cheaper units and much higher interest rates, combined with a lower overall work load meant profits for the year to October 31 fell almost a third to £1.58m. The dividend has been maintained at 6p gross.

Interest costs rose to just under £1.25m, and the reduced work load meant that overheads took a larger slice out of group profits. Building costs rose too, with materials up by a tenth on average, and labour costs roughly 20 per cent higher, since the summer.

The first half of this year should see some benefits from the switchover. Without the change of strategy, the group would now be selling very few houses, Mr Frank Cooper, the Finance Editor, said, though there were faint indications of reviving demand for bigger houses.

The company has a substantial land bank — enough to keep it building for seven years at the current low level of demand, according to Mr Cook, and for perhaps five years if demand improves. Borrowings are being contained at around £5m annually. But profits will not improve a great deal until interest rates fall and demand for larger houses, where the better margins lie, is restored.

Payout halved as Ariel Industries falls sharply

By Our Financial Staff

Ariel Industries, the Leicester engineering group, has halved the interim dividend to 0.8p gross following a sharp fall in profits from £420,000 to £56,000 pretax in the six months to September 30.

Ariel's sales were down from £3.95m to £3.56m, reflecting the impact of recession in the home market and the loss of exports because of unheavals in Iran and Iraq—both important markets. Mr Kenneth Edwards, chairman, said disruption in the Middle East had cost about £200,000 in lost profit and the strong pound had also impeded exporting which, in the past, usually accounted for around a third of group sales.

Two of the group's three main businesses — industrial fasteners and closures for the food industry—made losses and there has been short-time working. But the aircraft components business was doing well and had kept the group in profit.

Mr Edwards held out little hope that the second half would be better. "We are not seeing the upturn," he said, and destocking was continuing.

Bigger loss at A I Industrial

By Our Financial Staff

AI Industrial Products, formerly Allied Insulators, has reported losses for the second successive year and the company is forecasting a further loss for the first half of this year. A statement says that it is difficult to forecast beyond then. "But a modest upturn in sales volume during the second half year should be sufficient to generate a profit for that period."

Losses for 1980 were £1.83m after tax and extraordinary losses of £890,000. This compares with a £55,000 profit in 1979. Before tax and extraordinary items, losses jumped from £115,000 to £907,000. Sales have remained virtually static at £19.4m. A final dividend of 0.01p a share is being proposed as the only payment for the year. It is only being paid to keep the company's trustee status.

The chairman, Mr A. Lloyd, says that during 1980 demand fell sharply, particularly in the final quarter of the year.. This resulted in even more difficult trading conditions in the second half of the year. In the first half the losses were only £149,000.

The company has embarked upon a major restructuring programme and there have been major redundancies and extensive short time working. Redundancy payments alone cost the company more than £350,000.

Most of the group's divisions have suffered from lower demand for their products. At the high tension division, margins remain under pressure essentially because at the strength of the pound, but exchange losses have not been significant.

The low tension division, which is involved in refractory products, operates with "considerable" short time working and there is particular concern for refractory products.

No final from Tace as margins fall

'ace reports that its turnover the year to September 30 ; £15.29m against £14.86m. tax profits fel from £531,000 £301,000. There was no final idend giving a total of 1.21p ss against 2.8p.

'he board says that the comy experienced a sharp erioration in demand in the ond half of the year, which not only to reduced turnover also brought margins under ssure despite heavy pruning expenses.

xpenditure is continuing to cut materially and there are is that the trading position ow improving.

bright and Wilson rply down

urnover at Albright and son for the year to December 29, 1980, was £412.345m nst £385.722m but pretax its plunged from £18.9m to 75m. There was an attrible loss of £2.233m against ofit of £15.30m.

ie United Kingdom operas were responsible for the le of the fall in profit and principal cause of the down was the deep recession in United Kingdom.

oran Tea Holdings was at nterim from 7.14p gross to . The board says that in United Kingdom, the effects the recession and the conation of high interest rates slowed down activities in erty investment and development and will inevitably t the final results.

ithin its portfolio, negotia- are taking place for the of two properties in Maide and letting enquiries are g received for the recently bished office development .

& Smith chief check to growth

Denis Hodgetts, chairman ill & Smith, warns shareers that profits for the first will be at a reduced level any significant improvement in the second half will depend upon a recovery in demand. A temporary check to growth is therefore probable this year, he says in his annual report.

However, the company is on a very sound base and given more normal trading conditions he looks forward to resuming the group's record of progress.

Thomas French reports higher demand

Although 1981 in the United Kingdom was widely predicted to be a tough one, Mr T. J. French, chairman of Thomas French & Sons, said cverall demand was running ahead of expectations, although some sectors of the business were doing better than others. The overseas companies too remained busy.

Mr T. J. French told the annual meeting that the group's results for 1980 provided evidence of the beneficial effects of two initiatives.

The first—taken many years ago—was to expand overseas. The profit from these overseas businesses had provided substantial support. The second initiative was the thrust for higher productivity through a combination of reductions in fixed costs and a major investment in new plant.

Turnover at Gripperods Holdings for the half year to October 31 was £8.499m against £6.967m. Net profits were £265,000 compared with £268,000 after tax. Earnings per share were 10.60p. against 10.70p. The interim was held at 3.2p gross.

Romai Tea Holdings ahead for year

Despite a drop in turnover from £2.93m to £2.42m, taxable profits of Romai Tea Holdings have risen from £339,000 to £486,000 for the year to June 30. At the attributable level profits were £150,000 against £170,000. Earnings a share were 45.3 against 48.82 and the dividend was held at 32.14p gross.

siness appointments

ir Rowland Wright to join Shell' board of directors

Rowland Wright becomes a tor of the "Shell" Transport Trading Company on March 1. C. N. C. Haslam will be ice director of Shell UK from h 1. Mr G. S. Simpson, the ent finance director, resigns the board on March 31 on retirement from the Shell p.

Geoff Hoddinott has been inted deputy divisional direc of the business equipment ion of Philips Business ems.

r M. B. Phillip, chairman and aging director of BEWAC or Corporation and chairman EWAC Motors, will retire on h 31. Mr P. A. Aylward will become chief executive of AC Motors, retaining his ent title of managing director. J. W. Ritchie becomes nonutive chairman of BEWAC ors.

r Douglas A. Smith has joined board of Lloyds Bank UK agement, and he has been ed to succeed Mr S. James L. as chairman of the Salisbury onal board of Lloyds Bank 1 April.

r Bob Bowman has become xecutive director, training and lopment international, Hart- Europe.

r R. V. Mellon has succeeded M. C. Hughes as chairman of per Development Association. E. Olivares has become vicerman.

r Ronald McIntosh will me a non-executive director APV Holdings on March 1.

r E. G. Bruno, chief manager he London branch of Credito ano is returning to Italy. He be succeeded by Mr Guido C. avi, formerly deputy manager be New York branch.

r Stefan Lidvall has been inted managing director of Line. Mr Dennis Wood mes commercial director.

r M. W. Pitts-Tucker is the chairman of the Man-Made es Producing Industry Training Board. He succeeds Mr J. L. mans, who is retiring.

ir Michael Clapham will e as chairman of Birmingham & Mail Holdings at the end the year and will be succeeded Mr R. P. R. Iliffe. Mr I. B. ledge will become joint manng director of the Birmingham & Mail with Mr T. D. Morris April 1. On November 1 Mr ris, while remaining joint aging director, will succeed Iliffe as chairman and on il 1 Mr Morris will join the rd of West Midlands Press Mr G. R. Pritchard, manng director of West Midlands s, will join the board of the mingham Post & Mail.

John Fletcher will join Asda es in April and is expected take over as managing director m Mr Peter Firmston-Williams, is retiring, by September. He also join the board of the ociated Dairies Group.

Ir Roger Huband has been ointed group parts director of dham Stringer Vehicles.

Ir W. Duncan Smith is the irman of the newly formed Wallace, Smith Leasing company. The directors are Mr Marcel G. Wright, Mr Michael J. Hamilton, and Mr Jonathan R. Cole, who joins the group on March 3.

Mr Geoffrey C. Rowett, the chief executive of Charterhouse Group, is also appointed a deputy chairman of the group. Mr E. G. Cox, Mr J. A. Downes, Mr M. H. F. Morley, and Mr K. H. Thompson have been appointed managing directors of the group from March 1, and Mr J. B. Hyde will be appointed a managing director on joining the group on April 1. Mr D. E. Wilde retires from executive duties on April 30, and Mr J. A. Downes on August 31, both having reached retirement age.

Mr T. S. Braybrooke, group deputy managing director of Chubb & Son, in addition assumes main board responsibility as international product director for physical security products in the United Kingdom and overseas. He is also appointed chairman of Josiah Parkes & Sons (Holdings). Mr D. N. Dring assumes the appointment of chairman of Chubb Fire Security and Chubb Electronics. He also assumes main board responsibility as international product direct for Fire and Burglar Alarm products in the United Kingdom and overseas. Mr A. L. Markham assumes main board responsibility as regional director for North America and South Africa.

Viscount Caldecote, Sir Kenneth Corfield, Mr C. S. King and Mr D. H. Roberts are the new members of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development. The retiring members are: Sir John Atwell, Sir Robert Clayton, Mr D. Downs and Sir Ieuan Maddock.

Mr David Houghton has joined the board of Twil Group Management replacing Mr Philip Walker.

Mr George Law has been appointed a non-executive director of Baker Perkins Holdings.

Mr R. R. Benscher and Mr J. Lipton have become non-executive directors of Campari International.

Mr Finn M. W. Casperson, chairman (USA); Mr Peter Bunce, deputy chairman (non-executive); Mr John Prance, managing director; Mr John F. Sutton and Mr Geoffrey J. Geary, directors and joint general managers; Mr Robert A. Wagner and Mr David J. Farris, directors (USA): Mr Nicholas Cooper, director; and Mr William J. Ward, company secretary are the board members of Beneficial Trust, the result of a merger of Beneficial Finance Company and Security Trust Company.

Mr M. J. Lowther has been appointed to the National Water Council.

Mr Errol Mason has joined the board of Bootham Engineers.

Mr B. W. Denning has been appointed a director of Standard Brands from March 1.

Mr Richard L. Beattie becomes the new managing director for Heinz UK on June 10. He succeeds Mr R. Derek Finlay who has been appointed senior vice-president, responsible for corporate development, at the company's world headquarters at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

ICI in 1980

The Board of Directors of Imperial Chemical Industries Limited announce *the following trading results of the Group for the year 1980, subject to the* completion of the audit, with comparative figures for 1979.

For the second successive quarter the Company has traded at a loss. The outlook for 1981 is now markedly worse than expected in October 1980. The Board has accordingly decided to reduce the second interim dividend to five pence.

The figures are affected by two changes in accounting presentation which have been made in the light of evolving accounting practice. The changes increase profit before tax by £58m (1979 £53m) and profit attributable to parent company before extraordinary items by £33m (1979 £26m). The quarterly sequence of profits is also affected by the release of provisions made in the first half year.

The following table summarises the quarterly sales and profit before tax:

	Group Sales	Profit Before Tax
	£m	£m
1979 1st Quarter	1185	98
2nd Quarter	1382	162
3rd Quarter	1326	155
4th Quarter	1475	145
Changes in Accounting Presentation	—	53
Year	5368	613
1980 1st Quarter	1523	162
2nd Quarter	1452	80
3rd Quarter	1304	−10
4th Quarter	1436	− 6
Changes in Accounting Presentation	—	58
Year	5715	284

The quarterly profit figures for 9180 shown above have been restated to eliminate provisions made for Employees' Profit-Sharing Bonus during the first half year. This bonus depends upon the ratio of added value to employee costs. In 1980 the ratio fell below the point at which a bonus is normally payable and the Board has decided not to make a discretionary payment.

The Group profit and loss account is shown below both on the new presentation and on the presentation previously adopted.

	New Presentation		Previous basis of Presentation	
	1980	1979	1980	1979
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Sales to External Customers				
United Kingdom	2399	2232		
Overseas	3316	3136		
Total	5715	5368		
Profit Before Taxation	284	613	226	560
After charging/crediting Depreciation	291	248	291	248
*Exchange loss on net current assets of overseas subsidiaries	—	—	37	34
*Government grants credit	21	19	—	—
Taxation less grants	−123	−123	−102	−104
Taxation	−123	−123	−123	−123
*Government grants credit	—	—	21	19
	161	490	124	456
Applicable to minorities	− 31	− 33	− 27	− 25
Profit attributable to parent company before extraordinary items	130	457	97	431
Extraordinary items	−150	− 16	−150	− 16
Profit/loss attributable to parent company after extraordinary items	− 20	441	− 53	415
Dividends	−101	−134	−101	−134
Profit/loss retained	−121	307	−154	281
Earnings before extraordinary items per £1 Ordinary stock	22.1p	79.2p	16.5p	74.7p
Dividends per £1 Ordinary stock	17.0p	23.0p	17.0p	23.0p
Profit before taxation and loan interest as percentage of average assets employed	8.6%	16.4%	7.4%	15.2%

*Accounting presentation change

Trading Results 1980

Sales

Group sales increased by 6% to £5715m. Most of the increase was from higher oil sales. *Chemical sales prices rose by 8%, but a fall in volume of 5% resulted in an overall increase in* chemical sales value of only 3%. The f.o.b. value of exports from the UK was £1173m compared with £1108m in 1979.

Profits

Trading in the last three quarters of the year was severely affected by the world recession and the accompanying de-stocking, particularly in the UK and Continental Europe where profits were sharply reduced as sales volume fell. UK costs continued to increase but against the recessionary background the rising value of sterling held down prices in the UK and also caused UK export margins to fall steeply. It was not possible therefore to recover the full increase in costs through higher prices. Exports were profitable at the beginning of the year but became unprofitable during the second quarter, and by the end of the year in many areas realisations barely covered production costs. The Agricultural, Pharmaceuticals, Paints and Oil businesses did well but Petrochemicals, Plastics, Fibres and Organics all incurred heavy trading losses. Outside Western Europe, however, profit levels were broadly maintained with particularly good results in Australasia and the Far East, Canada and South Africa.

Fourth Quarter 1980

Chemical sales volume in the fourth quarter of 1980 increased by 7%, but in the UK there was no volume improvement over the seasonally low third quarter. Sterling strengthened further against European currencies which again prevented much needed selling price increases. A loss before tax was again incurred.

The Company's oil business (including its share in the Ninian oilfield) produced trading profits amounting to £22m in the quarter (third quarter 1980 £22m) after petroleum revenue tax of £15m.

In the harsh trading conditions of 1980 major steps have been taken to reduce costs and improve cash flow. Working capital has been contained in spite of rising costs. There has been vigorous action across all operating units to reduce costs and in addition there was major restructuring of the fibres business, where fixed costs and overheads are being reduced on a broad front. Despite all these difficulties, market share has generally been held, but at the expense of retaining business with low margins.

Changes in Presentation of Accounts

The two changes in the presentation of the results are:

1. Following the publication of Exposure Draft 27 (Accounting for foreign currency translations) the exchange loss on translating the net current assets of overseas subsidiaries into sterling is charged against reserves, instead of against profits for the year. This change in presentation increases profit before tax by £37m (1979 £34m) and profit attributable to the parent company before extraordinary items by £33m (1979 £26m).

2. Government grants receivable, which are spread over the lives of the relevant assets, are included in trading profit, instead of being deducted from taxation. This follows the practice most commonly adopted by other companies. The change in presentation increases profit before tax by £21 (1979 £19m) but does not alter the profit attributable to the parent company.

Extraordinary Items

As stated when the figures for the first nine months were announced on 23 October, an amount of £150m (1979 £16m) has been provided to meet certain extraordinary costs and losses facing the Group as an outcome of the severe worldwide recession. The provision includes £95m in respect of changes which have been announced in the fibres operations; and the remainder represents losses on disposal and reductions in holding values of certain chemical assets and investments both in the UK and overseas. These include a £26m *reduction in the holding value of the Company's investment in Carrington Viyella to £22m*, equivalent to 25p per share.

Taxation

The charge for taxation for the year 1980 amounting to £123m (1979 £123m) consists of £41m of UK corporation tax (1979 £65m), £54m overseas tax (1979 £43m) and £28m on the *profits of principal associated companies (1979 £15m)*. As explained above, Government grants are now credited to trading profits and not deducted from taxation.

Current Cost Accounts

	Current Cost Accounts	
	1980	1979
	£m	£m
Trading profit	93	341
Profits less losses from trade investments	26	33
Interest and other financial items	− 46	− 8
Profit before taxation	73	366
Taxation	−123	−123
Applicable to minorities	− 11	− 20
Profit/Loss attributable to parent company before extraordinary items	− 61	223
Extraordinary items	−173	− 16
Profit/loss attributable to parent company after extraordinary items	−234	207
Dividends	−101	−134
Profit/loss retained	−335	73
Earnings before extraordinary items per £1 Ordinary stock	−10.4p	38.6p

The current cost trading profit is stated after supplementary depreciation of £165m (1979 £125m), a cost of sales adjustment of £109m (1979 £139m), a monetary working capital adjustment of £3m (1979 £59m), and indexation of Government grants of £38m (1979 £30m). Interest cost in the current cost statement is after crediting an SSAP16 gearing gain of £64m (1979 £72m). The gearing gain when calculated on the basis that has been previously followed by ICI, which we believe to be a better measure, amounts to £204m (1979 £168m). Under this basis, profit attributable to the Parent Company before extraordinary items is £86m (1979 £318m).

Prospects

The recession in the UK is proving to be deeper and longer than was thought likely when the results for the third quarter were announced in October. Further substantial strengthening of sterling against Continental currencies since then has made the competitive position weaker both for ICI and its UK customers. The vigorous action being taken to reduce costs cannot offset more than a part of this disadvantage. Prospects for the first half of 1981 are therefore poor. Substantial improvement thereafter must mainly depend on renewed growth in economic activity in the UK and worldwide, combined with a more favourable currency environment.

Dividend for 1980

In announcing the results for the third quarter in October 1980, the Board stated:

"The decision on the final dividend will be made in February 1981 in the light of the results for the full year 1980 and of the outlook for 1981 as seen at that time, but it is the Board's present intention to maintain the level of the 1979 dividend for the year 1980."

As indicated above, the outlook for 1981 is now seen to be markedly worse than was expected at that time, and it is not possible at present to forecast when an upturn will commence. *Having paid an interim dividend of twelve pence the Board has concluded that it* would not be appropriate to maintain the second interim dividend at the level of the previous year (eleven pence).

The Board has declared a second interim dividend of 5.0 pence (five point nought pence) per £1 unit of Ordinary stock, which the Annual General Meeting will be asked to confirm as the final dividend for 1980, payable on 3 April 1981 to members on the Register today. This, together with the first interim dividend of 12.0 pence (twelve point nought pence) makes a total Ordinary dividend of 17.0 pence (seventeen point nought pence) for the year. Including the imputed tax credit of 7.29 pence this is equivalent to a gross dividend of 24.29 pence (1979 32.86p). The second interim dividend now declared will absorb £30m and together with the first interim dividend makes a total of £101m for the year.

Trading results for the first quarter 1981 will be announced on Thursday 30 April 1981.

J D COUSIN
Secretary

Imperial Chemical House
Millbank
London SW1P 3JF

26 February 1981



Imperial Chemical Industries Limited

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

... 36.—GB: Cattle, 89.70p per kg lw (+2.92). UK: Sheep, 173.02p per kg est dcw (+6.15). GB: Pigs, 70.53p per kg lw (+1.81). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 1.6 per cent, average price, 90.18p (+2.83). Sheep numbers up 18.5 per cent, average price, 173.56p (+6.18). Pig numbers up 5.8 per cent, average price, 70.53p (+1.81). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 7.4 per cent, average price, 88.41p (+5.18). Sheep numbers up 69.9 per cent, average price, 175.39p (+7.21). POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £38.30; Nov, £57.50; Feb, £67.50. Sales: 247 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

Copper and tin close lower in London

O nthe London Metal Exchange yesterday, both copper and tin closed lower.

Tin on the day was down £32 for cash and £37 for three months in both contracts. The afternoon market was steady on moderate covering prompted by light physical offtake and sterling—US dollar rate considerations. Three months traded from £6,225 in the first ring up to £6,250 on the "Kerb".

Morning values were marked down sharply under profit-taking and long liquidation after Wednesday's substantial gains, with three months trading down to £6,220, despite losses in sterling against the dollar.

Copper wire bars ended the day down £14 for both cash and three months. The afternoon market held relatively steady in the rings as covering support developed against scattered physical demand with three months wire bars trading up to £825.50 near the close.

However, renewed liquidation appeared on the "kerb" where business was noted down to the day's "low" of £818 during later dealings. Cathodes lost £13.50 for both cash and three months, with the discount to cash wire bars holding at about £4.00.

The morning market fell back sharply, reflecting losses in United States futures on Wednesday

Discount market

A surplus day was in prospect yesterday, but money did not show in any volume until very late in the session. The Bank of England intervened in the afternoon, buying small parcels of Treasury bills and eligible bank bills direct from the houses and from then on money began to flow through the system. The close was quite comfortable with balances being taken down to 13 per cent.

Foreign exchange report

The pound spent a quietly steady session yesterday, operating between the narrow range of $2.2200 and $2.2310 before ending a shade easier at $2.2260 ($2.2285) against the dollar. Trade-weighted sterling improved by 0.1 to 99.3. The unchanged MLR made no impact, but some early selling from Switzerland caused a momentary hiccup. Gains were made over Europeans such as the mark, 4.7075 (4.6550), the Swiss franc, 4.3275 (4.2700) and the French franc, 11.0825 (11.0325).

Reaffirmation of America's firm monetary policy—and the prospect of rising interest rates—kept the dollar on a higher tack throughout, apart from the mid-session when the Bundesbank withdrew its Lombard facility. This had the effect of rallying the mark to 2.0975 briefly on expectations of an upturn in Wes German money rates, now that the authorities had syphoned off substantial sums from the market.

However, the mark resumed its decline to end at 2.1145, just over a pfennig down on Wednesday night's 2.1075 against the dollar.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 26	Market rates (close) February 26	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2190-2325	$2.2255-2265	0.37-0.47c disc	2.18-2.28c disc
Montreal	$2.6660-6790	$2.6715-6725	0.65-0.75c disc	2.85-3.00c disc
Amsterdam	5.17-22fl	5.20¼-21¼fl	1¼-¾c prem	2-1c prem
Brussels	76.70-77.25f	76.95-77.05f	8c prem-2c disc	17-27c disc
Copenhagen	14.65-75k	14.71½-72½k	185-55ore prem	235-415ore disc
Dublin	1.2800-2890p	1.2845-2865p	08-18p disc	72-84p disc
Frankfurt	4.68-73m	4.70¼-71¼m	½-1¼pf disc	1½-2¾pf disc
Lisbon	125.60-126.60e	125.95-126.15e	35c prem-65c disc	15c prem-185c disc
Madrid	192.00-70p	192.10-30p	10c prem-45c disc	170-230c disc
Milan	2266-75lr	2267½-68½lr	6½-8½lr disc	32-35lr disc
Oslo	12.01-07k	12.04½-05½k	180-10ore prem	30ore prem-140ore disc
Paris	11.02-09f	11.07¾-08¾f	2-1c prem	2-3c disc
Stockholm	10.26-31k	10.27½-28½k	275-355ore disc	1195-1290ore disc
Tokyo	460-66y	462-63y	220-165y prem	465-405y prem
Vienna	33.20-45sch	33.27-32sch	08-05gro prem	8gro prem-1gro disc
Zurich	4.29-34f	4.32¼-33¼f	2¾-1¼c prem	4¾-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.1 at 99.3.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9095-1.9345
Bahrein	0.835-0.839
Finland	9.0410-9.0610
Greece	111.10-113.10
Hongkong	11.7610-11.8010
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.607-0.610
Malaysia	5.0630-5.1130
Mexico	51.6-53.1
New Zealand	2.4035-2.4235
Saudi Arabia	7.4075-7.4375
Singapore	4.6430-4.6730
South Africa	1.7265-1.7415

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	99.3	-26.7
US dollar	99.9	-4.0
Canadian dollar	84.8	-18.5
Schilling	116.3	+21.8
Belgian franc	107.7	+8.3
Danish kroner	90.0	-9.9
Deutsche mark	120.6	+40.2
Swiss franc	133.8	+73.6
Guilder	112.8	+16.0
French franc	86.7	-9.5
Lira	61.4	-53.6
Yen	146.4	+42.3

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7350-1.7365
+ Canada	1.1993-1.1996
Netherlands	2.3300-2.3340
Belgium	34.55-34.60
Denmark	6.6050-6.6150
West Germany	2.1130-2.1160
Portugal	56.65-56.80
Spain	86.25-86.40
Italy	1020-1021
Norway	5.4125-5.4225
France	4.9760-4.9780
Sweden	4.6150-4.6250
Japan	207.50-207.70
Austria	14.91-14.93
Switzerland	1.9430-1.9460

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8334-0.8337

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate+	% change adjusted+*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6697	+4.72	+1.32	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.95846	+3.04	0.00	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.55012	+2.74	-0.65	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.98720	+2.40	-1.00	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81368	+2.55	-0.85	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	00.695439	+4.08	+0.68	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1227.83	+6.05	+2.65	4.08

+ changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14¼-15¼; seven days, 15-15½; one month, 15¾-16¼; three months, 16⅞-16⅝; six months, 16½-16¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $495.25 (an ounce); pm, $492 close, $491.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $508-511 (£228-229.50).
Sovereigns (new): $123-125 (£55-56).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%

(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13

Week Fixed: 14-13⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⅝	2 months	12⅝
3 months	11⅞	3 months	11⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	12½-12⅜	3 months	12⅝
3 months	11⅞-11⅞	4 months	12⅝
4 months	11¾-11⅝	6 months	12
6 months	11⅞-11⅜		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15¼-14¾	7 months	12½-12¼
2 months	13½-13¼	8 months	12½-12¼
3 months	12¾-12⅝	9 months	12½-12¼
4 months	12¾-12½	10 months	12½-12¼
5 months	12⅝-12⅜	11 months	12½-12¼
6 months	12½-12¼	12 months	12½-12¼

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13⅝-13½	6 months	12¼-12⅛
3 months	12½-12⅜	12 months	12⅛-12⅛

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅞-14⅝	3 months	12⅝
7 days	14⅞-14⅝	6 months	12⅛
1 month	13¾	1 year	12¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¾-14½ Close 14½

1 week	14¾-14½	6 months	12¼-12⅛
1 month	13⅞-13⅞	9 months	12¼-12⅛
3 months	12½-12⅜	12 months	12¼-12⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 13 6 months 12¼

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Wall Street

New York, Feb 26.—On the New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 1.66 at 956.05 shortly after the opening. Advances outnumbered declines by 552 to 156 among the 1,120 issues on tape at the start. Early turnover amounted to about 3.7m shares.

Analysts said that Wednesday's rally was significant because the Dow Average, which was down by 10 points, did not go below the 930 level. They said an upward movement could occur soon.

Observers said many investors were thinking that Mr Henry Kaufman, the respected Salmon-Brothers economist, is wrong in his prediction that interest rates will rise soon. Mr Kaufman, in addition to repeating his interest-rate prediction, he said he does not think President Reagan's plans would do much to halt inflation this year. But the Federal Reserve chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, said he thought the nation could turn the corner in its battle against inflation by the year-end.

On Wednesday, the industrial average gained 8.30 to 954.40.

Among the actives, General Motors climbed 1⅞ to 50½, Dow Chemical two to 37⅜ and IBM 2⅛ to 64⅜.

US commodities

GOLD dropped $6 to $498.50-$500.50. CHICAGO IMM. March, $498-60-497.50; April, $504.40 bid; June, $517.00-517.50; July, $523.80 asked; Sept, $536.80 bid; Oct, $543.30 asked; Dec, $556.40 asked; Jan, $563.00 asked; March, $576.10 bid; April, $582.70 asked. NY COMEX. March, $498.50; April, $503.50-505.00; June, $516.00-518.00; Aug, $531.50; Oct, $543.50; Dec, $556.60; Feb, $569.80; April, $582.00; June, $596.40; Aug, $609.80; Oct, $623.30; Dec, $636.90.

SILVER futures closed 14 to 18 cents lower, selling in a narrow range of about 20 cents.—March, 1,278.00-1,285.00c; April, 1,300.00c; May, 1,316.00-1,320.00c; July, 1,355.00c; Sept, 1,391.00c; Dec, 1,444.00c; Jan, 1,461.50c; March, 1,496.00c; May, 1,530.50c; July, 1,565.00c; Sept, 1,599.50c; Dec, 1,652.00c.

COPPER.—Contracts ended 1.45 to 1.50 cent weaker with March at 80.85 cents and May at 85.45 cents, both down 1.50 cent.—March, 80.60-80.70c; April, 82.15c; May, 85.30-85.50c; July, 85.80-85.90c; ...

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex. 01-623 1288			
71.1	55.6	Balanced	69.2	74.4	4.88
105.9	81.2	Do Accum	104.8	112.6	4.88
50.0	50.0	Energy Int	..	50.0	2.00
50.0	50.0	Do Accum	..	50.0	2.00
83.0	59.2	Worldwide	80.7	86.7	2.22

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Scotbits Securities Ltd.			
58.7	38.3	Scotbits	49.8	52.4	4.26
83.1	69.4	Scotshares	80.2	86.2	4.81
64.5	47.0	Scotyields	52.6	56.5	8.38
		Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 48 St. Martin's Lane, ...			

PERSONAL CHOICE



...na Calder-Marshall as The Woman in Eva Figes's play ...ys (BBC 2, 9.30) which she has adapted from her own ...vel.

The fact that today (BBC 1, 5.05) brings the final episode of ...nge Hill the serial about a mixed comprehensive school, ...es me a chance to make a brief comment about those few ...sodes I have managed to see. I was, initially, repelled by the ...ggish behaviour of some of the pupils, appalled by their ...venly speech, distressed by the take-it-or-leave-it attitude of ...e of the staff. And I am still not reconciled to it. My ...blem is that I don't know whether Grange Mill has been ...ing the truth about these schools or not. Some teachers tell ...it has; others say no. At least with Greyfriars, St Jim's and ...Dominic's, we knew where we stood: bang in the middle of ...ver-Never Land.

...look forward to seeing what sort of job Lorin Maazel, the ...hestra conductor, makes of chairing Friday Night . . . Saturday ...rning (BBC 2, 11.35) and of talking to fellow (part-time) ...ductor Edward Heath and the full-time conductor of Punch, ...n Coren. . . The penultimate instalment of The Walls of ...icho (BBC 1, 8.00) is about a mutiny. The first women's ...lical school in Scotland has opened its doors, but some of the ...dents refuse to obey the rules. The outcome is a court case ...sibly unique in medical history. All true, of course.

...Little need, surely, for me to recommend you to watch ...al Heritage (BBC 1, 10.45) as you will most probably already ...hooked on Sir Huw Wheldon's guided tours around the ...ion's treasure houses. Tonight's film is about Victoria, ...t-Albert. A monumental, imperial era over which the sun ...yet to set. What marvellous pictures have been provided to ...ment Sir Huw's already eloquently pictorial narration.

...A first performance and a first broadcast on Radio 3 (3.00). ...rd for the first time on radio is Coleridge-Taylor's Violin ...certo in G minor which, with Sergiu Schwartz as soloist, ...ne of the items in the 1980 Guildhall School's Centenary ...cert. The first performance is of Paul Barker's Fantasy on ...notes, and Vaughan Williams's atmospheric A London ...mphony completes the programme. . . . Two at One? (Radio 4, ...5), first heard last Tuesday and worth the repeat, is about ...ed marriages. Jill Cochrane is the interviewer. . . . ...hael Charlton's series about British diplomacy since the ...0s (Radio 3, 9.15) continues with Jean Monnet's abortive ...rts to get Britain to act in concert with France in 1949. ...tributions from, among others, Sir Harold Wilson, Lord ...don-Walker and Denis Healey.

...AT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; ...REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Computers: *cast studies.* **7.05** *Talking to children.* **7.30** The power of speech. Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Treffpunkt: Deutschland. 925 Athlete: triple jump. 9.52 Look and Read. 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box. 10.35 Going to Work. 11.02 Hyn o Fyd (This World).
11.25 You and Me: Take My Hand.
11.40 *For Schools, Colleges:* Maths File: enlargement (8). 12.05 Sixteen Up: The last careers lesson.
12.45 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: There is another of Peter Seabrook's gardening features called Dig This. **1.45 How Do You Do?**
2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Consumer rights. 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects. Closedown at 3.00.
3.20 Y Doctor Kate: tribute to Dr Kate Roberts. In Welsh. **3.55 Play School:** Gene Zion's story Harry the Dirty Dog. Also on BBC 2 at 11.00.
4.20 Touché Turtle: cartoon. Tenderfoot Turtle. **4.25 Jackanory:** Joan Aiken's story Crusader's Toby is told by Ronald Pickup. *The pictures are by Gareth Floyd.* **4.40 Finders Keepers:** Electronic battleships game, chaired by Richard Stilgoe. It is between teams from Coombe Hill Junior School and St Barnabas and St Philip School. **5.05 Grange Hill:** final episode in this story about life at a comprehensive school. End of term sportsday, but there *is not much evidence of the sporting spirit.* (See Personal Choice).
5.35 The Perishers: with Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News: with Peter Woods.
5.55 Regional news magazines. All the regions unite at 6.20 for Nationwide which tonight includes a gardening item and Sportswide.
7.00 A Question of Sport. New series begins. As usual, Gareth *Edwards and Emlyn Hughes captain the teams* and David Coleman is the quizmaster. Taking part are Bill Beaumont, Kenny Dalglish, Sharron Davies and Jim Watt.
7.30 Coming Home: New comedy series begins. It's about two brothers, married to two sisters and what happens when one of the couples returns to Britain from Canada to start a new life. With Roger Sloman, Linda Marchal, Murial Maddocks and Philip Jackson.
8.00 The Walls of Jericho: Penultimate episode in this serial about Scotland's first women's medical school. Tonight, the mutiny at the school and the court case that it leads to. With Sara Kestelman as the pioneering *Sophia Jex-Blake. (See Personal* Choice). **8.50 Points of View:** Barry Took has fun with viewers' letters.
9.00 News: with John Edmunds.
9.25 Starsky and Hutch: *The two* detectives pose as wealthy heroin dealers and they bait their trap with a beautiful blonde.
10.14 Time of My Life: Comedy *series about a man down on his* luck (Mark Kingston). With Amanda Barrie (r). **10.45 Royal Heritage:** The story of Britain's royal builders and collectors. Part 8—Victoria, Queen and Empress. With Huw Wheldon as narrator (r). (See Personal Choice.)
11.45 Film: Destination Gobi (1953) War drama about a group of American sailors who enlist the *help of a party of Mongol nomads* against the Japanese. With Richard Widmark and Don Taylor. Director: Robert Wise. Ends at 1.15.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 1.45 pm-2.02 O Dan y Mor. 2.02-2.22 I Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.45-5.05 Dwylau ar Arwyr. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Gwerthwr yn ei Gartref. 8.00-8.25 Tomorrow's World. 8.25-8.50 Triangle. 10.15-11.15 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.05 am Royal Heritage. 12.05-1.51 Film Rebel Without a Cause. 1.51 Weather. **Scotland:** 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.43 It's Himself . . . Norman. 10.43-10.45 News. 1.15 am Close. **Northern Ireland:** 11.02 am-11.25 Closedown. 3.20 pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.43 Spotlight. 10.43-10.45 News. 1.15 am News. **England:** 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 10.15-10.43 East—Weekend. London, South East—The Time of my Life. Midlands—Midlands Tonight. North—Rock Athlete. North East—Coast to Coast. North West—Somewhere More Central. South—Cosden on Location. South West—Birth of a Business. West—RPM Rock. 1.15 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University. Stereochemistry; 7.05 Maths: ideas of space; 7.30 Database: local authorities. *Closedown at 7.55.*
1.00 pm Play School. Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (Gene Zion's story Harry the Dirty Dog).
4.50 Open University: Richard Hoggart: a measured life; 5.15 Psychosexual differences (2).
5.40 Charlie Chaplin: Shanghaied (1915*) Charlie, as a sea cook's *assistant, accidentally foils a plot* to blow up the ship. Edna Purviance plays a stowaway, who is also the shipowner's daughter.
6.05 Monkey: Fantastic tales of Old *China,* made for *Japanese* television and given an English language soundtrack.
6.50 Speak for Yourself: Advice for those whose landlords refuse to do repairs. Another in this series for those whose first language is not English. Repeated next Tuesday.
7.15 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing; **7.25 Oxford Road Show:** Live show from Manchester. *With Rob Rohrer and Jackie* Spreckley.
8.00 Gardener's World: *Geoffrey* Smith among the camellias in the small gardens of La Colline, in *Jersey, Channel Islands.*
8.25 America Catches Cold: Newsweek report on the American economic crisis. Keith Kyle asks: Are America's basic problems the same as *Britain's? How closely* will President Reagan follow Mrs Thatcher's monetarist line?
9.00 Call My Bluff: Frank Muir, Sheila Gish and Dick Clement take on Arthur Marshall, Stephanie Turner and Tim Brooke-Taylor. The MC is Robert Robinson.
9.30 Playhouse: Days. Eva Figes has adapted her own novel about a hospital patient (Anna Calder-Marshall) who looks back on her unhappy life.
10.50 Newsnight: All the big news stories of the day.
11.35 Friday Night . . Saturday *Morning. The orchestral conductor* Lorin Maazel is tonight's chairman. His guests include Edward Heath, Alan Coren, Edward Fox, Ellen Burstyn and Doreen Wells. Ends *at 12.30 (see Personal Choice).*

THAMES

9.30 am Botanic Man: a New Zealand "museum"; 9.58 The Young People of Ludlow; 10.15 French: Cabaret sketches about love; 10.38 Evolution; 11.02 Stop, Look, Listen; 11.14 Reading with Lenny the Lion; 11.26 Maths for the very young; 11.43 For the deaf.
12.00 The Magic Ball: The story of the toy soldier, told by Eric Thompson (r); **12.10 pm Once Upon a Time:** The King Who Wanted the Sun, told by Mark Wynter.
12.30 A Better Read: Bill Grundy's books programme. Tales of the supernatural (r).
1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Together: Life in a block of flats. The potting shed picnic.
2.00 After Noon Plus: Anthony Howard and Peregrine Worsthorne discuss the week's top news stories with Mavis Nicholson.
2.45 Film: The Daughters of Joshua Cabe Return (1976): Television movie about a fur trapper (Dan Dailey) whose land is threatened. He recruits three not too respectable women to pose as his daughters.
4.15 Watch It! A story of Dr Snuggles, the inventor; **4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty:** Story of a "ghost"; **4.45 The Extraordinary People Show:** Three youngsters question the writer Buchi Emechta; **5.15 Clapperboard:** Clips from, and chat about, the new Agatha Christie thriller The Mirror Crack'd, with Elizabeth Taylor.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames news; 6.30 Thames Sport.

London Weekend

7.00 Family Fortunes: Quiz show, compered by Bob Monkhouse; **7.30 Film: Magnum:** Don't Eat the Snow in Hawaii (1980). Thriller about a private investigator (Tom Selleck), a woman drugs dealer, an Arabian gold dealer and a powerful criminal.
9.00 Second Chance: The story of a broken marriage. Final instalment. Could the divorced couple (Susannah York, Ralph Bates) end up together again?
10.00 News from ITN; 10.30 Benson: Comedy series about a black butler in a governor's residence. Tonight: a protest against a power project.
11.00 The London Programme: Council Spending. An examination of the services provided by two London councils—Redbridge (Tory-controlled) and Barking (Labour-controlled). Is there value for money for the rates that are paid?
11.35 Mannix: A strange kind of kidnapping is investigated by the private detective Joe Mannix (Mike Connors).
12.30 Close. Tony Lothian reads something written by Emmeline Pankhurst.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Nelson Budderley Esquire, by Ken Kessell.
1.00 News.
11.05 Two at One? (See Personal Choice.)
11.50 Natural Selection.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 My Music.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Holding the Baby, by Martin Staniforth.†
4.05 Weigh-In.
4.15 Poetry Up to Now (8).
4.45 The Trumpet Major (5).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 The Week in Synod.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 The Painted Veil (5).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 *Shipping forecast.*

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Contact; Music *Interlude; Country Dancing Stage* II (5); Notice Board (2); Music Workshop.
10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Exploring *Society;* Listening and Writing (5); Prospect.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Let's Join In; Religious Education; Music Interlude.
11.00-12.00 Study on 4: Kontakte (18); Allez France! (17).

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Rossini, Ireland, Schubert, Ravel.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Sullivan, Saint-Saëns, Johann Strauss.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Barber (incl Vln Conc).†
10.00 Clarinet, piano: Lutoslawski, Berg, Crosse, Patterson.†
10.40 Piano: Chopin, Schumann, Prokofiev, Liszt.†
11.30 BBC Singers/Joly: Debussy, Poulenc, Bedford, Banks.†
12.05 pm BBC Northern SO/Herbig, pt 1: Brahms, Mozart (Pno Conc 22—Roll).†
1.00 News.
1.05 BBCNSO, pt 2: Schumann (Sym 3).†
1.45 *Cantatas:* Rameau, Clérambault.†
2.30 Quartet (Chilingirian): Martinu (no 5).†
3.00 Guildhall School SO/B. Wright: P. Barker, Coleridge-Taylor (Vln Conc—1st bdcst), Vaughan Williams (Sim 2).† (See Personal Choice.)
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again: preview.†
7.00 Record: Britten.†
7.30 Piano (Ax—live from Birmingham), pt 1: Haydn, Schoenberg (op 19), Schumann.†
8.20 One Pair of Ears: review.
8.40 Piano, pt 2: Chopin (Son in B min).†
9.15 The Price of Victory (3).
10.15 Music in Our Time: *Benoliel.*†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Biber.†

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Educating for Uncertainty; The Student of Religion; Personality and Learning.
11.15 pm-12.35 am Open University: The First Years of Life—As the Twig is Bent; History of Mathematics; Instruments and their Music; Linear Maths.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 Steve Jones.† 8.00 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.00 Castle's on the Air. 10.30 The Organist Entertains. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 10.00 Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Intermezzo. 8.30 The Book Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Smash of the Day. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Bestseller. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Theatre Call. 4.35 Letter from London. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 5.15 Music Now. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 8.15 Time Off. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Smash of the Day. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Dances of the Renaissance. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 The Book Programme. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 My Word! 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Grampian
As London except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: In Name Only (Michael Callan). 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Police Story. 12.10 am Seachd Laithean. 12.25-12.30 News.

Anglia
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: A Summer Without Boys (Barbara Bain). 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.30 am Film: Baby Love (Keith Barron).

Scottish
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: A Summer Without Boys (Barbara Bain). 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.30 am Film: Baby Love (Keith Barron).

Yorkshire
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Lost in the Desert (Dirkie Hayes). 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45-12.40 am Lou Grant.

Ulster
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Lost in the Desert (Dirkie Hayes). 4.13-4.15 News. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Benson. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime.

HTV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Strange New World (John Saxon). 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Welcome Back Kotter. 10.28 News. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Soap. 11.35-12.05 am Camera.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.35 am-9.50 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Y Peiriant Eithaf. 5.15-5.45 Muppet Show. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.

ATV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 No Apple for Johnny. 2.25-4.15 Film: Beyond the Bermuda Triangle (Fred MacMurray, Donna Mills). 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 News 11.05-12.55 am Film: Fear in the Night (Peter Cushing, Judy Geeson, Joan Collins).

Border
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Appointment in Honduras (Glenn Ford, Ann Sheridan). 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 10.30 Golf. 11.30-11.33 News.

Westward
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Log of the Black Pearl (Kiel Martin). 4.12-4.15 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 10.32 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

Channel
As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Log of the Black Pearl (Kiel Martin). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Ladies First. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 10.28 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 Brown Study. 11.35-12.00 Friends of Man.

Tyne Tees
As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20-1.30 News. Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 *Film: Smallest Show on Earth* (Virginia McKenna, Bill Travers). 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Film: Rider on the Rain (Charles Bronson). 12.30-12.35 am Countryside Christian.

Southern
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: To the Ends of the Earth (Dick Powell). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 10.35 Recipe for Disaster. 11.35 Soap. 12.00 Film: Love (Per Ragnar). 1.35 am Weather followed by It's a Small World.

Granada
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.45-4.15 Film: Hour of 13* (Dawn Addams). 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 After All That, This 11.10-1.00 am Film: Farewell to Arms (Rock Hudson).

Entertainments Guide

Most credit cards accepted for phone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

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COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight 7.30: Madam Butterfly. Tomor 7.30: Cinderella. 100 balcony seats avail. from 10 a.m. on day of perf.

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LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
...s. 7.30. From Tues.: Romeo & Juliet. Mar. 16-25: Coppelia. Mar. 26-April 4: Giselle.

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Ton't & Wed. at 7.00 Lulu. Tues. at 7.00 L'Africaine.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tomor. at 7.30 Giselle. ... & Thurs. at 7.30 Mayerling. ...ller replaces Seymour Thurs. perf.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE, EC1. 837 1672/1673/3856. Credit cards 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 01-278 0871.
CONCERTS AT THE WELLS
Tonight at 7.30 An Evening with ...art. Tkts. £1 to £3.50. Tomor. 7.30 Opera Rara "A Night at Operetta". Tkts. £1 to £6. March 4 to 21 BALLET RAMBERT

CONCERTS

THEATRES

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats. 10-4). Info. 836 5332.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
Ton't 7.30, Tomor. 2.00 & 7.30.
THE SUICIDE
by Nikolai Erdman
"High entertaining farce". Time Out. "Best ensemble work in the West End". What's On. "A brilliant play . . . make sure not to miss it". Spectator. With: Peter Nichols' PASSION PLAY (5 Mar.) and O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (10 Mar.). Prestel booking 22023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse, Piccadilly.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. From Mon. until 23 May only. Eves 7.15 (opens Wed. at 6.30). Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of
ARTHUR MILLER'S THE CRUCIBLE
Directed by Bill Bryden

COTTESLOE (N.T.'s small auditorium—low price tkts): Mons. to Sats. 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45.
Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams, Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times
"OUTRAGEOUS" Gdn.

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Tonight at 8.30 only. Subs. Evgs. ...

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SHAFTESBURY ... THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG ... GOTCHA and KILLING TIME ... NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH ... JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT ... DONALD SINDEN in PRESENT LAUGHTER ... ANNIE ... THE NAMESAKE ... ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST ...

NOTICE

CINEMAS

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGES 12 AND 13

HEAR ME, O LORD: for thy loving kindness is good, turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.—Psalm 69: 16.

BIRTHS

ARNOLD.—On February 25th, 1981, to Gillian (nee Rose) and John—a son (Benjamin Robert Fuller).

BIDDLE.—On 22nd February, 1981, at St. Thomas' Hospital, to Mo and Adrian—a daughter (Esther), sister for Alice.

CANTACUZENE-SPERANSKY.— On February 25th at Colchester Maternity Hospital to Mary (nee Mason) and Serge, a son, Alexei Peter, a brother for Rodion.

DAVIS.—On 25th February to Perpetua and Romilly—a son.

EDWARDS.—On February 21, to Ingor (nee Early) and Harry—a son (Thomas Richard Saunders).

HESELTINE.—On February 25th, to Joanna (nee Symonds) and Richard—a daughter (Emma Clare), a sister for Catherine.

KITCHEN.—On February 21st at Frankfurt am Main to Barbie (nee Jordan) and Philip—a son (Andrew James).

OFF.—On February 24th, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Catrin (nee Evans) and Anthony—a son (Alexander Rhodri Ward).

ROWLAND.—On February 19th, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, to Joan (nee Graham) and Edward—a son.

SUMMERFIELD.—On Wednesday, 25th February, to Kay and Malcolm—a son (Jacob).

WALTON.—On February 23rd at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Ann-Margaret (nee Willis) and John—a daughter.

WINTERTON.—On February 25th, to Lysbeth and Richard—a son, 11th ... at West London Hospital.

BIRTHDAYS

K. B. H.—Happy Birthday.— Dorothy, John and Duncan.

MARRIAGES

GOLDEN WEDDING

ELLIOTT.—Josey and David Elliott, of Rusthall, Kent, celebrating fifty years of togetherness. 27-2-1931.

DEATHS

BARNETT.—On February 25th, suddenly and peacefully in his 80th year, at his home, Southcroft, Clinton Rd., Penarth, Glamorgan Alec, the cherished and adored husband of Esme. Darling father of William and James, dear father-in-law of Cindy and much loved Grandpa of Nicky and Jamie. Funeral service at St Augustine's Church, Penarth, on Monday, 2nd March, at 2 p.m. Afterwards in the church yard.

BORRETT.—On February 26th, 1981, in hospital, Eileen, aged 81 years. Beloved wife of Commander Giles Borrett R.N. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Mass at our Lady of Ransom Church, Eastbourne, Sussex, on Friday, March 6th, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only but if desired donations to: Servite Houses Ltd., 17 The Boltons, London, SW10 9SX.

COFFEY.—On 24th Feb. 1981, very suddenly in hospital after a long illness so bravely fought, Dr. Owen Frederick Coffey, most dearly loved husband of Diana of Brunswick Gardens Kensington. Service Golders Green Crematorium, Friday, 6th March, 12 noon. Family flowers only.

COX.—On Thursday 26th February, peacefully at home, Iris Vera, aged 64, of Abbots Ride, Farnham beloved wife of Harold and dearly loved mother of Christopher, Angela and Richard. Funeral at St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, Frensham Road, Farnham on Wednesday 4th March at 12 noon. Flowers to H. C. Patrick & Co, 86 East Street, Farnham. Tel. Farnham 714884.

DUFF-DUNBAR.—On 25th February, Katharine Isobel Bennett, peacefully in hospital. Service at Golder's Green Cremalorium on 3rd March, at 1.40 p.m. Memorial service later date. All enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd. ...

EDWARDS.—On February 24th, 1981, peacefully, at Weston-super-Mare, Dorothy Edith, widow of J. B. Edwards, of 5 Eastfield Gardens, and formerly of Windyridge, Cecil Road, Weston-super-Mare. Private service at Weston-super-Mare Crematorium today, Friday, at 9.30 a.m. No flowers or letters please.

FARRER.—On 25th February 1981, peacefully, aged 85, the Hon. Marjorie Laura, wife of Sir Leslie Farrer and mother of Matthew and Jenett. Cremation private. Memorial service to be announced later.

GOLOUBEFF-KAPNIST. Count Vadim, on 25th February, 1981, in his sleep at the Ferme Blanche, Cap d'Antibes. Beloved husband of Mary, loving step father of Harry and Sarah and much loved grandfather of their children who gave him so much happiness. Funeral service Saturday, 10.30 a.m. at the Orthodox Chapel, Antibes.

GARDNER.—On 25th February, 1981 suddenly at Sidcup, after a short illness, James Joseph (Jim) M.B.E., loving husband of Ethel and loving father to sons Neil and Christopher. Cremation on Thursday, 5th March at Falconwood Crematorium, near Eltham, at 2.30 p.m. Tributes from family and close friends to Chappells, 43 High Street, Sidcup, and others please to Dr. Barnardos.

GRANT.—On 26th February 1981 at his home in Durham Professor Colin King Grant, dearly loved husband of Alison and loving father of Paul and Simon. Funeral, family only. No flowers please, but if desired donations to National Society For Cancer Relief c/o Lloyds Bank, Durham.

GREAVES. HAROLD RICHARD GORING, Professor of Political Science at The London School of Economics, peacefully at University College Hospital on February 26th. The cremation, without flowers, will be at 1.50 pm in the East Chapel, Golders Green, on Wednesday 4th March.

HARRISON.—On February 17th, aged 91, at home in Grimsby, Gladys May, widow of Ald. Ernest Harrison, O.B.E., J.P., and mother of Eileen and Leslie. Private cremation.

HORDERN.—On 24th February, 1981, peacefully in a nursing home in Canterbury, Brigadier Hedir Maudslay Hordern, O.B.E., M.C., aged 88 years. A devoted husband of the late Lois Lalo of Throwley House Faversham, Kent. Funeral service Wednesday, 4th March at St. James's Church, Sheldwich, Faversham at 2.30 p.m., followed by interment in Sheldwich Churchyard. Flowers to Messrs C. W. Lyons & Son, 70 Military Rd., Canterbury. Tel: 63598.

JOHNSTONE.—On 24th February, suddenly while on a holiday trip, Dorothy Christian Liddle, C.B.E., beloved wife of James Arthur Johnstone, of 65 Cottesmore Court, Stanford Rd., London, W.8, and mother of Peter. Pennant Johnstone. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

LOVEDAY, GEORGE ARTHUR.— On 25th February 1981, peacefully after a short illness, beloved husband of Penelope and father of Peter and Mark. Requiem Mass at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday 3rd March at St. Bartholomew's Church, Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire. Family flowers only. Donations to "The Reverend Bede Cooper for Touchdown House". The Vicarage, Wootton Bassett. Travel enquiries to: Masons, Wootton Bassett 2224. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held in London.

PENNY.—On February 20th, suddenly and peacefully, in Cape Town, Cdr. F. G. (Eric) Penny, R.N. (Retd.), of Cliff Cottage, Titchfield, beloved husband of the late Joan, much loved stepfather of Jane and Kate, and grand "Fred" of Joanna and Lucie. Memorial service at St. Peters, Titchfield, on Thursday, March 5th, at 11.30 a.m.

PETTIT.—On February 23rd 1981 at Eastbourne District Hospital after a short illness Mabel Rosina aged 77 of Saffrons Corner, 38 Saffrons Road, Eastbourne. Managing Director of The Howard Pneumatic Engineering Co Ltd. and late of Petite, Brook Street, London W1.

RIVERS-FOLEY.—On January 24, 1981 at home, Rambler, Weymouth, Edward, beloved husband of Lucille (formerly Egerton-Bird); dear stepfather of Peggy Holroyde and Cherry McCulloch. "He was a verray parfit gentil knight."

ROSE.—On February 25 1981 peacefully at St Georges Nursing Home, SW1, after a long illness Lt-Col Angus John Campbell, late of Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Cremation private. No letters or flowers please.

TEULON PORTER.—On Wednesday, 25th February, at her home in Shaftesbury (formerly of Vienna) Theresa, widow of Noel Teulon Porter, peacefully after a short illness. Much loved aunt of Lore, Reserl, Hansl and Peter. Cremation at Salisbury on Tuesday, 3rd March, 12.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations in memory may be given to the Shaftesbury and District Historical Society.

WOODWARK.—On February 25th, at home, John Geoffrey Woodwark, peacefully. Dearest husband of Cecile Mary (Bunty), beloved father of Christopher, Anthony, Patrick, Michael and Rosemary. Funeral, Christchurch, Paignton, 12.00 noon Tuesday. Flowers, no mourning. R.I.P.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ANDERSON, SIR DAVID.—The University of Strathclyde has arranged a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir David Anderson, Director of the Royal College of Science and Technology, Glasgow, from 1946 to 1959, in St. David's (Ramshorn) and St. Paul's (Outer High) Church, Ingram Street, Glasgow, on Monday, 2nd March, 1981, at 3.00 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

GLANVILLE.—In ever-loving memory of Ethel, 27th February, 1961, and Stephen, 26th April, 1956.—Catherine and Lucia.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

COHEN, JONATHAN.—Words cannot express our thanks to all our many friends for their wonderful support on the sad loss of our dear father Jonathan. Cremation has now taken place. Donations, if desired, may be sent to the Cancer Research Fund. A special memorial service to be announced later. Please accept this as acknowledgment —His loving daughters Jacqueline and Sybil.

STANLEIGH-TURNER. — Stanleigh and Christopher thank very sincerely all the kind friends who have sent messages of sympathy on the death of Ann. These are so very numerous that they are unable to reply to them individually, and hope that this may be accepted as a grateful acknowledgment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IQ test membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055.

LET our machine mind your own business. 'Phone Phonemate.

SUPERB African Ivory Tusks—See For Sale today.

£100 off your new handmade Sofa. See JBD For Sales column.

COMMERCE Tutor and Tutor Governess required. See Public & Educational Appointments.

ANTIQUE SAIL LINERS for private collection. See Wanted.

HANDMADE Japanese paper from Green & Stone. See For Sale.

SUPER PA—Immediate start for fast expanding City Co.—See La Creme.

HAPPIER LIVES for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London EC2.

WINNEBAGO MOTOR HOME for sale. Sleeps 8. See Motors.

MERCEDES BENZ new models for sale. See Motors.

NOT SO MUCH A JOB. See General Vacs. today.

SEC. for Managing Editor of Pub. Co. See Secretarial Vacancies today.

WE HAVE BEEN CARING for the elderly poor in London since 1851. Our home in Vauxhall is condemned. Before tragedy occurs please help us to redevelop. Hurry now. The Little Sisters of the Poor. Ref. R44, Meadow Road, London SW8 1QH.

TO THE MAN who appreciates superior donkeys from the lady with the sack burn.—P.S.

UPPINGHAM SCHOOL require Headmaster. See in "Pub. & Ed. Appts." today.

BUSINESSMEN ! Relax.—See Personal Guide in Services.

ST JUDE. Everlasting gratitude.—G.

HELIE.—I prefer to remember the day.—Love J.

THE FRENCH EMBASSY urgently requires bilingual Secretary.— See Secretarial Vacancies today.

LADY to share house purchase. See Prop under £55,000.

WEST SURREY. Family house. July/August —See Short Lets today.

PART-TIME CHAUFFEUR/EUSE required for Rolls-Royce.—See Domestic & Catering.

BEVERLEY STOOP your exquisite dinner party was so exceptional that some guests can only thank you in this way.—J.F.

W.F.C. bought the shoes but not the cuff links.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,461

ACROSS

1 Witches devour soldier for pudding (6).
5 Leave, e.g. beaver by the lake (8).
9 Fine place (abroad) for a motor museum (8).
10 The method that makes the connected whole (6).
11 Right one had by French painter, very strict one (8).
12 An orange-vendor was not to be allowed to do so (6).
13 Classic victim of conjugal retrospection (8).
15 Cereal out west needed for bread-making (4).
17 Dry one, in a way (4).
19 Spray makes a cat rise in panic (8).
20 "... our life" in Arden "— from public haunt" (6).
21 They open a possibility for a novice (8).
22 Down south of it (6).
23 With things so unfavourable I love to consume mineral (8).
24 "Last" time ? (8).
25 Cocaine Song perhaps ? (6).

DOWN

2 "Responsive" describing the prayer we agree with ! (8).
3 Challenging item allowed, supporting Lancaster (8).
4 Something of a spider, might one say, the lady roulette operator ? (9).
5 He finds out minor discrepancy in time (6, 9).
6 First outfit still comes in after the appointed hour (7)
7 Some defaulter I ordered to describe his motive (8).
8 Picnic thus held up ? (8).
14 One keeping coal perhaps, or anything else (9).
15 Not easy bringing in duck and gull back to nest (8).
16 Pangolin's advance payment on revised rate (3-5).
17 Member drinking tea is somewhat old-fashioned (8).
18 Begin to bring into order (8).
19 Prescribe a drink out of the river (7).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,460

HANDMAID DIVERS
ARCHBISHOP MUFF
DISCIPLINARIAN
REALGAR FIREARM
CAYENNE CYCLOPS
ROCKY MOUNTAINS
SCAR NOMINATIVE
STATUE PRESAGED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP NEEDED FOR WHEELCHAIR GARDENER

Bill Marey is one of our 370 incurably disabled patients. But even though paralysed and confined to a wheelchair, his great love is gardening, which he practices in specially raised flower-beds. We are not part of the Health Service and we need help to help Bill and all our other patients lead lives as normal as possible. All donations, including legacies, gratefully received by: Air Commodore D F Rixson, OBE, DFC, AFC, Director of Appeals and Publicity.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, (PUTNEY AND BRIGHTON), WEST HILL, PUTNEY, LONDON SW15 3SW. 01-788 4511

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Gladys White is 85, partially paralysed, and was living in fear until Counsel & Care for the Elderly found her a place in a nursing home and paid for it. Only 80p a day, or £6 a week, is needed to help other elderly people into such security. Send us a donation, please.

COUNSEL & CARE FOR THE (Elderly Invalid's Fund) 131 Middlesex Street London E1 7JF Tel: 01-247 9844

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Where more of your money goes on research. The campaign has one of the lowest expenses-to-income ratios of any charity, and is the largest supporter in the U.K. of research into all forms of cancer. Please help with a legacy. Donation, interest free loan or gift "In Memoriam" Cancer Research Campaign, Dept. TX5 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

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PATRON SOUGHT

to subsidise fund raising expenses for theatre project destined as aid programme to developing South Pacific Country.

Director, Theatre Kiribati Project, 125 Champlain House, White City Estate, W.12. 01-749 2406

JEFFRIES, THOMAS PERCY JEFFRIES, late of 56 Friars Oak Road, Hassocks, West Sussex, died at Hellesdon, Norfolk, on 11th February, 1980 (residuary estate about £18,000). Kin of the above named are requested to apply to Peter Kingshill, Esq., Solicitor, 4 Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, London, WC1R 5BP.

SUNNY SUSSEX. Could be sunnier if you own holiday accommodation in Sussex and would like to be fully booked for 1981. The Times U.K. Holidays and Hotels feature on Saturdays can help you. Ring Steve Fraser on 837 3311, ext. 206.

LUSITANIA—survivors, relatives, friends please contact Box No 2891 F The Times. All replies answered.



Death in a bottle

In January, the executive director of UNICEF said: "If we in the international community are successful in our efforts to promote and protect the practice of breast feeding, we can save 1 million infant deaths each year in the 1980's".

For nearly a decade War on Want has been campaigning for an end to the aggressive promotion of powdered baby milks and has supported efforts to protect breast feeding.

Two reports on the issue demonstrate how urgent the problem is, and expose the negative impact of the infant food industry on infant health.

Help War on Want fight for infant health

I enclose a donation of £______ to help War on Want's fight for health.
Please send me:
______ copies of The Baby Killer Scandal (£1.50 each).
______ copies of Infant Feeding in the Yemen Arab Republic (60p each).
Special Offer: both publications for only £2.00 ☐ tick here.
☐ Please send more information on how I can help.
Name______
Address______

Please return to: War on Want Room TH, 467 Caledonian Road, London N7 9BE

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Ever since the end of the last war, it has been a melancholy fact that demand for The Macallan has exceeded our capacity to supply it. (We persist in using the time-honoured, unhurried ways, and the smaller stills approved by antiquity.) However, ten years ago, we decided to embark on a modest Expansion which would in no way prejudice the quality of the end result; and today the fruits of this noble undertaking are ready for the glass. While it would not be possible to describe our new reserves as a Malt Lake, at least we can encourage you with the promise of an accelerated trickle.

THE MACALLAN. THE MALT.

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PHILIPS 421 2 DOOR FRIDGE	£159

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HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION owners in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset: If your hotel, guest house, cottage or flat is fully booked for the whole of 1981, ignore this announcement. If not, phone Fiona now on 01-837 3311, then put your feet up while our "Holidays in Great Britain and Ireland" feature works for you.

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CHUG thru the Chilterns. Bridgewater Boats. Berkhamsted 3615.

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NW5. Large flat, suit couple. Few months let. Luxury kit. £75 p.w. —Kirk. 636 5440, 485 1404.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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MARCH MADNESS ! Ski 7 March

1 wk from £160 2 wks £235

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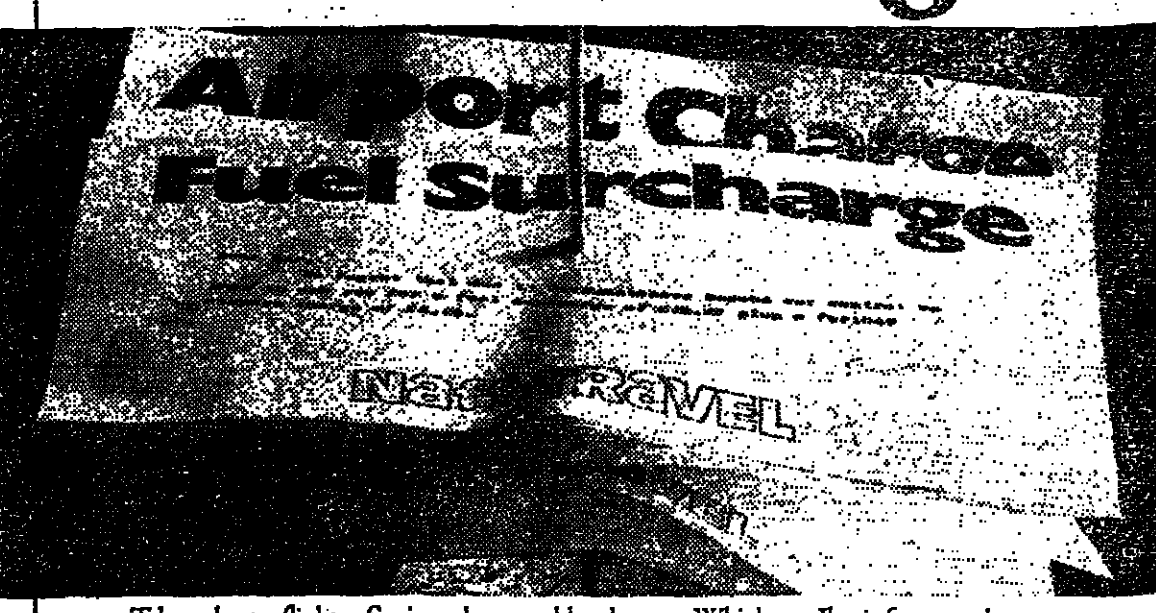
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